

Hafa Adai!

CCC chair DeLeon Guerrero says he's tired of IPI's runaround. **PAGE 2**  
Apatang, GAIN to collaborate on animal protection law changes. **PAGE 3**

\$1

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## House insists on 5 prosecutors

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The Democrat-controlled House of Representatives insists on having five members serve as prosecutors in the impeachment trial of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, in direct opposition to the stance of the Republican-controlled Senate, thus setting the stage for a showdown between the two chambers of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Legislature.

### \$101.35M budget proposed for FY23

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The administration of Gov.

#### AT A GLANCE

As of 7:38pm, April 5, 2022

#### VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population  
Additional Dose  
Vaccinated: **60.1%**

Pfizer/BioNTech			
Initiated:			<b>38,201</b>
Fully Vaccinated:			<b>37,418</b>
Moderna			
Initiated:			<b>5,350</b>
Fully Vaccinated:			<b>5,216</b>
Janssen			
Fully vaccinated:			<b>1,115</b>
Additional Dose:			<b>22,636</b>
GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	47,046	203	47,249
Recovered	45,987	808	46,795
Active	79	203	282
Deaths	349	3	352

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	11,065	93	11,158
Recovered	10,947	146	11,093
Active	-	-	32
Deaths	33	0	33

4/05-43; 4/04-49; 4/03-7; 4/02-19; 4/01-46; 3/30-39  
Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

Ralph DLG Torres has submitted to the Legislature a \$101.35-million budget for the Commonwealth government and related agencies for fiscal year 2023 which is \$2 million lower than his current fiscal year's budget.

In his proposed budget submitted to the Legislature Friday, Torres said Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig reported gross budgetary resources of \$150.41 million in fiscal year 2023. Minus debt service and NMI Settlement Fund ob-

See **BUDGET** on **Page 4**

#### COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

##### LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

In response to *Saipan Tribune's* inquiry about the impeachment matter, House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) said yesterday that they have decided to stick to their decision that there should be a team of prose-



Villagomez

cutors of his choosing. Villagomez earlier appointed five prosecutors—vice speaker Blas Jonathan T. Atao (R-Saipan), and Reps. Corina L. Magofna (D-Saipan), Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan), Donald

See **HOUSE** on **Page 4**

### Dr. Stearns accused of prescribing opioids sans legit purpose

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A former Marianas Medical Center physician is facing

over 100 charges of allegedly failing to issue prescriptions for controlled substances, specifically opioids, for a legitimate medical purpose and

acting outside the usual course of his professional practice.

According to a complaint filed by assistant U.S attorneys

**DR. STEARNS** on **Page 4**



#### LIBRARY MONTH

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, joined by Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director Erlinda Naputi, CNMI library workers, members of the House of Representatives, local government departments and agencies, local organizations, and the community, proclaimed April 3-9 as National Library Week, April 6 as National Library Outreach Day, and April 5 as National Library Workers Day in a ceremony yesterday at the JKPL.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Story on **Page 6**

## INSIDE



### BUSINESS

Angel's Flour House on Alaihai Ave. in Garapan offers authentic Chinese breakfast dishes.

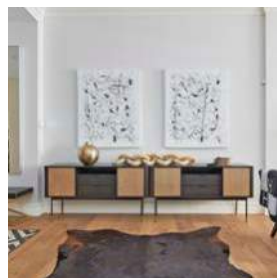
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### WORLD

Moscow faced global revulsion and accusations of war crimes after the Russian pullout from Kyiv.

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### GOOD

### HOUSEKEEPING

From artwork to accessories and rugs, graphics can often be the best choice for a modern edge.

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## Local

## CCC chair DeLeon Guerrero says he's tired of IPI's runaround

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Tao Xing, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC senior vice president for marketing and public affairs, talks about, among other things, IPI's request for a five-year extension to complete their Imperial Pacific Resort project in western Garapan, during the Commonwealth Casino Commission board's monthly meeting Wednesday at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai.



» **DeLeon Guerrero says IPI asks for 5-year extension to complete resort project, yet does not know how much it costs, where to get funding**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Commonwealth Casino Commission board chair Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero does not understand why Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC is asking for five more years to complete its Imperial Pacific Resort in western Garapan, yet it has not provided information on how much more it would cost to finish the project and where they will get the money for it.

He pointed out during the CCC board's monthly meeting Wednesday last week that IPI has already failed to finish the project by February 2021—as required under amendment No. 6 of the casino license agreement. DeLeon Guerrero said IPI has already violated the CLA and is asking the CNMI government to grant them another extension. Yet IPI does not know how much money really would cost them to finish the project and does not know where they are going to get the money from, he added.

DeLeon Guerrero made the comments after listening to Tao Xing, IPI's senior vice president for marketing and public affairs, who discussed during the meeting about his follow-up last March 24 with the Commonwealth Lottery Commission about their request for an extension. Xing

disclosed that he inquired from the Lottery Commission on the timetable to review and the approval process for their request.

At that point, But DeLeon Guerrero interrupted.

"I'm sorry sir, maybe it's me. I don't understand anything what you're just saying," the chairman said, adding that he just does not understand what process Xing was talking about.

DeLeon Guerrero said they're going in circles every monthly meeting so he advised Xing to let IPI's parent company know that CCC is tired of this runaround. The chairman said he does not understand what the Lottery Commission is going to act on when IPI is already past due with the deadline.

"We should be talking about punitive damages," he said.

Even if the Lottery Commission will deny or approve the request, what will IPI do next since they have no construction team, DeLeon Guerrero asked. "I have a hard time understanding how a multi-billion dollar company will be thinking that way. Is it just me or am I missing something in here?" he asked.

Xing said he will convey DeLeon Guerrero's concerns but, based on his understanding, they initially requested for the extension at the beginning

See CCC on Page 4

## Heavy rains possible over weekend

The public is being advised that heavy rainfall is possible over the weekend due to a tropical disturbance that is expected to remain south of Guam.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, the tropical disturbance is drifting toward the west-northwest and is expected to turn toward the northwest, moving toward Yap over the next few days. All models continue to show that the disturbance will remain south of Guam. Rainfall amounts continue to be the tricky part, with some models showing around 1.5 inches over Guam, decreasing northward to less than 0.5 inch for Saipan, while other models show amounts between 5 and 7 inches over the Marianas through the weekend and up to 10 inches by Monday. Heavy

rainfall remains a possibility across the region as the disturbance strengthens and moves northwest.

Localized flooding is possible in low-lying and poor drainage areas, while flash flooding will be possible in areas of heaviest rainfall, especially near steep terrain. Residents of the Marianas need to closely monitor this developing situation as watches, advisories and warnings could be issued later in the week. If living near streams and rivers, prepare to move items away from stream and river banks. Make sure storm drains nearby are not clogged, especially in low-lying areas.

Localized flooding will be possible in low-lying and poor drainage areas. Check storm drains in your area to make sure they are not clogged. If planning anything outdoors this weekend, have a backup plan in place. (Saipan Tribune)



# Rotary

COMMUNITY EGG-STRAVAGANZA

## Easter EVENT!



**Egg hunts for the following age groups:**

Toddlers (Ages 1 & 2)  
Pre-School (Ages 3-5)  
Elementary (Ages 6-10)  
Middle School (Ages 11-13)

**Bring Your Baskets!**

Designated areas per age group.  
Toddlers will be assisted by parents.  
Parents are advised to arrive earlier than the start time.

Over 500 Goody bags while supplies last. Bouncy house/slides, over 18 vendors, lots of prizes to claim from the eggs.



**After Egg Hunting,**  
Join us at the NMI Museum  
for food and even more activities!



**Saturday, April 9, 2022**  
**Start Time: 9am**  
**Sugar King Park (Across Golds Gym & Garapan Central Park)**

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Entertainment provided by: Marvin DeLeon Guerrero, RJR Band.

For More Information, Contact [Rotarysaipan@gmail.com](mailto:Rotarysaipan@gmail.com),  
Director Of Community Service Joann Aquino At (670) 285-6961  
or Secretary Jessy Loomis At (670) 789-1228



# Apatang, GAIN to collaborate on animal protection law changes

Alison Hadley and Arleen DeCastro of Guam Animals in Need, and Dr. Brenda Smith, DVM, stopped by at the Saipan Mayor's Office last April 1, 2022, and had a chance to talk with Mayor David M. Apatang of matters related to animal health and what could be done to deliver improved animal healthcare on Saipan.

"We are very fortunate to have a great relationship with Guam Animals in Need and can work together in improving our capability of providing and delivering better animal healthcare to dogs and cats [on] Saipan," Apatang said.

He said that as long as he has been the Saipan mayor and even before taking office almost eight years ago, Hadley has been keeping in constant touch with the Saipan

Mayor's Office—"checking how we are doing and whether we need donations of dog and cat food."

"I want to thank Alison and Arleen DeCastro for their time to visit with me, and hear GAIN's success stories in Guam. I especially want to thank Cyrus Luhr, president of the board of GAIN, for all the generosity GAIN has extended to us here in Saipan," Apatang added.

Hadley said that she and Smith are available to offer their experiences and challenges in operating the GAIN animal shelter in Guam and how the Saipan Mayor's Office can overcome challenges and continue to operate the Saipan dog control program with success.

"In the coming months, with the assistance of Dr. Smith and the incoming Guam Territorial Veterinarian, Dr. Mariana

Turner, GAIN will be capable of making spay and neuter services [on] Saipan, which will be a tremendous health benefit to many pets and impounded free-roaming dogs [on] Saipan," said Hadley.

She said that Apatang is open to the suggestion of revisiting the CNMI Animal Protection and Control Act, or Public Law No. 21-31, to see how Saipan dog program staff maybe statutorily authorized to perform procedures "that we in Guam are statutorily authorized to perform" like in many other jurisdictions in the United States.

"In many jurisdictions, ser-

vices to care for dogs and cats are authorized by law to be performed by a person who is not a veterinarian," said Smith. "As a veterinarian, staff must be trained and certified by a licensed, practicing veterinarian, and I am sure we can take a look at the law and bring Saipan into the list of those many jurisdictions that permit non-DVMs to perform very limited procedures."

Apatang said his office's collaboration with GAIN and Smith will be to draft a legislation that would provide for the Saipan dog control program, like GAIN, to perform humane

euthanasia on dogs that are critically injured or have very little hope of recovering from serious health issues.

"It is time to bring how we operate our dog control program to present time practices and move on from old practices," Apatang said.

In a separate meeting with Rep. Ed Propst (D-Saipan), the lawmaker expressed support for the mayor's collaboration with GAIN and Smith.

"I welcome any proposed amendment to the Animal Protection and Control Act, to provide for limited services to be performed by non-DVMs

though rigorous certification requirements and trainings," said Propst. "Because of the challenges in getting a veterinarian to our islands, one who will be here on a fulltime basis, we need to make adjustments in our laws to permit non-veterinarians to perform limited services, similar to other jurisdictions." (PR)

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## AK Saipan marks 55 years with 2 Saturday events

As part of its celebration of 55 years of service this year, Atkins Kroll Saipan is hosting an "Easter Drive Thru" at their San Jose showroom on April 16, Saturday, starting at 2:30pm for some special treats while supplies last.

On the same day, head over to the Garapan Fishing Base for "Tacoma Lifestyle SPN's 2nd Annual Easter Drive Thru" at 3pm for more goodies.

In an interview with AK sales manager Saipan Kevin Barnes last month, "We want to find ways to give back to everybody that supported us for 55 years. ... Easter is coming up and we'd like to do an Easter celebration—just a drive-thru for everybody to be able to come in, and Tacoma-thon coming up, where we can celebrate

all of our existing Tacoma owners, and hopefully, entice a few more Tacoma buyers. We're going to try to find a couple of other ways to give back to the community during our 55-year anniversary." (Leigh Gases)

## AGAPE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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1 Open a new personal checking account by April 30, 2022 and receive a \$25 check to mobile deposit into your new checking account with the FHB Mobile app. After opening the checking account, download FHB Mobile app on your mobile device and enroll in Mobile Banking. Upon the enrollment, the \$25 check will be provided for mobile deposit using FHB Mobile app while in the branch. To qualify for the offer online, open a checking account by using the promo code 2022Mobile and the \$25 check will be mailed to you by June 30, 2022. The \$25 check is for mobile deposit only. The minimum deposit to open a personal checking account is \$20. You must be enrolled in FHB Online and have a mobile device with internet to use FHB Mobile Banking. Device must have a rear-facing camera with autofocus to use Mobile Deposit. This offer cannot be combined with any other promotional offer. Limit of one \$25 check per customer or account. The \$25 check is reportable as taxable income (1099-INT). The annual percentage yield ("APY") for Priority Banking Level 2 is 0.02% and for Level 3 is 0.02% for daily balances less than \$2,500 and 0.02% for daily balances of \$2,500 or more. The APY is accurate as of 2/18/22. The rates may change after the account is opened. Fees could reduce earnings on the account. The monthly service charge is \$15 for Priority Level 1, \$19 for Level 2, and \$22 for Level 3. Accounts with a zero balance for 30 consecutive days will be closed automatically. Pure checking and Complete Checking accounts closed within 180 days of opening will be assessed a \$50 charge and a \$75 charge will apply to Priority Banking customers. Business and corporate accounts do not qualify for this offer. The offer is valid until April 30, 2022.

2 A Pure Checking account with a zero balance for 30 consecutive days will be closed automatically. When you enroll in eStatements, you will no longer receive paper statements. If you choose to receive both paper and eStatements, a fee of \$5 will be imposed each month. You must be enrolled in FHB Online to get eStatements.





## NMI now eligible to participate in program to help seniors and people with disabilities

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is offering more than \$110 million to expand access to home and community-based services through Medicaid's Money Follows the Person, or MFP, program. The Northern Mariana Islands is among the states/territories eligible for this funding, which can help older adults and people with disabilities safely transition from institutional care to independence in their homes and communities.

First authorized in 2005, MFP has provided states with \$4.06 billion to support people who choose to transition out of institutions and back into their homes and communities.

The new Notice of Funding Opportunity makes individual awards of up to \$5 million available for more than 20 states and territories not cur-

rently participating in MFP.

These funds will support initial planning and implementation to get the state/territory programs off the ground, which would ensure more people with Medicaid can receive high-quality, cost-effective, person-centered services in a setting they choose.

"Everyone deserves the opportunity to live at home, in their communities, and with their loved ones," said Health & Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra. "This funding will bring dignity and peace of mind to even more seniors and people with disabilities across the country. We will continue expanding these programs to ensure all Americans have equitable access to the high-quality health care they deserve—no matter where they live."

"Our health care system works best when it meets us where we are and helps us get to where we want to be," said CMS administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure. "With this new funding opportunity, we're expanding a program with a proven track record of helping seniors and people with disabilities transition safely from institutional care to their own homes and communities. Letting 'money follow the person' is key to those successes, and to the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to affordable, accessible, person-centered care."

HCBS is a critical component of the Medicaid program and the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to help older adults and individuals with disabilities live safely and independently in their

homes and communities. The MFP program has been a critical tool, now with the potential to do more in a broader array of states and territories thanks to this latest NOFO.

To help additional states and territories implement MFP, these awards will support the early planning phase to get an MFP program off the ground. This includes:

Establishing partnerships with community stakeholders, including those representing diverse and underserved populations, Tribal entities and governments, key state and local agencies (such as state and local public housing authorities), and community-based organizations; (PR)

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## DR. STEARNS

From Page 1

Jessica Wessling and Mikel Schwab with the U.S. District Court for the NMI, Dr. Anthony Stearns, a former MMC & Pacific Labs, LLC family medicine physician, allegedly violated the Controlled Substances Act by issuing opioid painkiller prescriptions without legitimate medical purpose, essentially contributing to opioid abuse in the CNMI.

According to the complaint, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration reviewed some of Stearns' patient files from 2015 to 2020 and investigated his prescribing activities for controlled substances from October 2016 to January 2020, also known as the "dispensing violations period." In this investi-

gation, five particular patient files stood out.

During the dispensing violations period, Stearns allegedly violated the Controlled Substances Act under the United States Code because he knowingly issued approximately 357 prescriptions for controlled substances to patients A, B, and C that were either not issued in the usual course of professional treatment, nor for a legitimate medical purpose, or both.

Stearns was also allegedly in violation when he prescribed approximately 62 prescriptions for Schedule II controlled substances for maintenance or detoxification purposes and providing maintenance or detoxification services without the appropriate training or DEA exemption for Pa-

tients D and E.

The lawyers are asking the court to order Stearns to pay civil penalties in the amount \$67,627 for each violation.

For patient A, the lawyers allege 31 counts of failing to issue prescriptions for controlled substances for a legitimate medical purpose and acting outside the usual course of his professional practice.

"Dr. Stearns issued prescriptions for controlled substances to patient A without establishing a proper doctor-patient relationship, without personally confirming the patient's diagnosis, without proper face-to-face medical examinations, without justification for controlled substances being prescribed and ignoring the patient's addiction," the lawyers said.

Senate-adopted Impeachment Rules require the Senate president to appoint a prosecutor.

"I made that appointment already," said Hoschneider, referring to Magofna.

The Senate first appointed Villagomez as prosecutor, but the speaker declined. The Senate then appointed Attao, but the vice speaker also declined.

For Patient B, Stearns is facing 125 counts of allegedly failing to issue prescriptions for controlled substances for a legitimate medical purpose and acting outside the usual course of his professional practice, they alleged.

"Dr. Stearns issued prescriptions over a prolonged period for high doses of controlled substances without establishing a proper doctor-patient relationship; without personally confirming his diagnosis; and without properly monitoring of the patient to medically justify prescribing and refilling the specific individual and combination of controlled medications," the complaint said.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

This prompted Hofschneider to appoint Magofna, but Magofna declined too. Villagomez instead appointed Magofna and four other representatives to serve as the House's prosecutorial team.

The Senate is controlled by the Republican Party. Torres is seeing re-election in the Nov. 8 election under the Republican Party.

## HOUSE

From Page 1

M. Manglona (Ind-Rota), and Leila C. Staffler (D-Saipan)—to prosecute Torres in the Senate.

He said Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) had appointed one—Magofna as the sole prosecutor—but Magofna has declined.

"And if I am not mistaken, the Senate president said they will proceed with or without [a prosecutor]," Villagomez said.

Villagomez did not mention what they are going to do if the Senate will proceed with the trial with or without a House prosecutor.

Hofschneider told *Saipan Tribune* Monday that the

VID-19 Task Force and the development of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors.

The governor said one of the major projects of GCEA is the Public and Private Partnerships Program, whose goal is to maintain and rehabilitate tourism and recreational areas.

He said their team has also developed the travel bubble program, which established the CNMI as a safe destination for tourists.

Torres said this balanced budget submission, which was approved by the Governor's Council last March 30, factors all positions, including reinstated furloughed positions authorized by Public Law 22-08

the CNMI government with \$101.35 million that's available for appropriation.

The governor said Atalig's report of net available resources are projected as the result of the continual suspension of earmarks as stipulated in Public Law 22-08.

Torres said as COVID-19 cases slowly ease on the islands, his administration continues to work with community partners to navigate resources in revitalizing the economy and revamping the tourism industry, with the health and safety of the CNMI residents as his highest priority.

He said this has been achieved through the efforts of the CO-

## BUDGET

From Page 1

ligations, the net resources available for appropriations is \$101,352,567.

For the current fiscal year, the CNMI government's budget is \$103.3 million.

In his submission for fiscal year 2023, Torres said the CNMI's gross budgetary resources are derived from taxes such as business gross revenue taxes, income taxes, excise taxes, and other taxes such as hotel, bar, and beautification taxes. Deducting debt service payments and NMI Settlement Fund obligations from the gross revenue, this will leave

## O

From Page 1

al individuals have been confirmed positive for COVID-19, bringing the CNMI total to 11,158 cases since March 28, 2020.

Of the 93 cases, 26 were identified on March 28, 2022 (with one on Tinian and two on Rota); 33 were identified on March 29, 2022 (eight on Rota); seven on March 30, 2022 (one on Tinian, three on Rota); 16 prior to March 31, 2022; three on April 1, 2022; two on April 3, 2022, both on Tinian; and six prior to March 28, 2022.

In Guam, the Joint Information Center reported two COVID-19-related fatalities yesterday and one last April 4, 2022.

The 352nd COVID-19-related fatality was pronounced dead on arrival at the Guam Memorial Hospital on April 3, 2022. The patient was an 83-year-old male, fully vaccinated without a booster, with underlying health conditions, who tested positive on April 3.

The 351st COVID-19-related fatality occurred at the Guam Regional Medical City on March 31, 2022. The patient was a 66-year-old female, unvaccinated, with underlying health conditions, who tested positive on March 16.

"To those who loved them,

## CCC

From Page 2

of last year.

"Had we done an estimate and put together a package, it [would be] already outdated by now. So right now we're really looking for a schedule, our review schedule and approval schedule so that we can quickly put together a team," he said.

DeLeon Guerrero said Xing appears not to know anything about any new revenue source or revenue stream to help IPI finish the project. When asked about the \$250-million loan from a Japanese institution that IPI was supposed to secure, Xing said he has no news about that loan.

At the start of the CCC board meeting, DeLeon Guerrero asked if IPI has identified a funding source for its extension request. Xing said they don't have the details yet because all they have right now is a skeleton team just keep the operations going. He said once they have the detailed information if requested by the Lottery Commission, they will probably have to put together a construction team and get some experts.

DeLeon Guerrero said Xing is requesting to extend a construction deadline that is already gone and has passed. "You, IPI, should have an idea as to how much it costs to finish the project," he said.

DeLeon Guerrero said the last information they received from Xing was that there is an individual coming in from Macau, China, or Hong Kong

[Lt. Gov.] Josh [Tenorio], [first gentleman] Jeff [Cook], and I send our heartfelt sympathies," said Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero. "As we work toward a route to normalcy, we are once again reminded that our grief continues as well as our fight against this pandemic."

On Monday, Guam's 350th COVID-19-related fatality occurred at the GMH on April 1, 2022. The patient was a 57-year-old male, fully vaccinated without a booster, with underlying health conditions, who tested positive on April 1.

"Too many have experienced the pain from losing a family member to this deadly virus," said Leon Guerrero. "To his family and those who loved him, Jeff, Josh, and I pray they find healing and comfort during this difficult time."

To date, there have been a total of 47,429 officially reported cases in Guam, 352 deaths, 282 cases in active isolation, and 46,795 not in active isolation.

In the CNMI, there have been 11,158 cases since March 28, 2020. Of that number, there have been 11,093 recoveries, 32 active cases, and 33 COVID-19-related deaths.

CHCC said its next report will be on April 11, 2022. (*Saipan Tribune*)

that will conduct valuation and update valuation of property. The chairman asked if that has occurred.

Xing replied they're trying to do it virtually, but that's really tied to the audit process.

Xing said they really need to have some kind of experts to validate as "the range is pretty wide."

He said the estimate partially depends on when the Lottery Commission start the approval process.

Xing said the lower end estimate to complete the project is about \$50 million and the higher end is \$250 million.

"It really tied to our marketing strategy going forward. Given the whole...market dynamic changes, we'll probably have to reevaluate what's the target market for us, that will come down to how we're going to finish the interior," he said.

DeLeon Guerrero asked how the Lottery Commission could make a decision when Xing or IPI has no idea how much it would cost and where to get the money.

Xing said that, based on his experience, it takes about six months to pull all the information together to validate and revalidate, then present it to the Lottery Commission. Xing said they are waiting for exactly what kind of information or material the Lottery Commission needs.

He said once the approval process starts for the extension of the deadline, they probably have to pull some people from off island from U.S. or China to finalize the estimation.



## Overseas voting for Filipinos in NMI

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam announced yesterday that the ballot packets for registered voters on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will be mailed on April 10, 2022, in accordance with the approved mode of voting for this jurisdiction.

All ballot packets will be sent to the addresses provided during registration. Registered voters

are encouraged to wait for the delivery of their ballot packets.

Ballot packets with incomplete/invalid addresses, those that indicated c/o Philippine Consulate General, and those that will be returned to sender will be available for pick-up during the consular mobile outreach that will be conducted by the Philippine Consulate General by end of April 2022.

Passport services will also be available, only on appoint-

ment basis, during the consular mobile outreach. Note that other consular services will not be available during the outreach. The final dates and other details will be announced later.

In the meantime, the consulate general requests all registered voters on Saipan to check their names in the Certified List of Voters, which can be found in this link: CNMI Certified List of Voters ([PR](#))



### F-18 FIGHTER PILOT

Erin Overcash, the only female F-18 fighter pilot in the Navy's Carrier Air Wing 5, stands inside a cell of the Old Japanese Jail in Garapan, Saipan, where local lore holds that famed aviator Amelia Earhart was held by the Japanese military after her 1937 disappearance. Other photo shows Overcash standing in the corridor of the Old Japanese Jail.

WALT GOODRIDGE



## DPS chief wants illegal OT suit dismissed

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero wants the Superior Court to dismiss the lawsuit filed by CNMI Attorney General Edward Manibusan against him over the allegedly excessive overtime compensation he received from Super Typhoon Yutu recovery.

Guerrero, through his lawyer, Matthew T. Gregory, filed a motion to dismiss the OAG's lawsuit against him because the claims alleged are outside the statute of limitations, and there are no affirmative facts pleaded showing an exception to the statute of limitations.

"Plaintiff's complaint must be dismissed for being untimely under the CNMI statute of limitations pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) of the Commonwealth Rules of Civil Procedure," the lawyer said.

Because of this, Gregory said their motion to dismiss should be granted without leave to amend.

Gregory argued that the Commonwealth Code has a

two-year statute of limitations in place for actions against the "director of Public Safety" for "any act or omission in connection with the performance of official duties." In this case, Gregory said, the defendant is the commissioner of Public Safety, which is an identical position to the director of Public Safety.

"If the two-year statute of limitations applies in this case, then the complaint is untimely and must be dismissed. Plaintiff's claims all center around the illegality of certain 'emergency payments' alleged to have been received by defendant. The complaint lays out the dates the defendant received typhoon emergency premium pay. The paragraph lists payments on Nov. 26, 2018; Dec. 21, 2018; Dec. 31, 2018; and Nov. 11, 2019. The complaint was filed on Feb. 1, 2022, more than three years after the payments," Gregory said.

The lawyer added that aside from his position, that statute also applied here because Guerrero received these payments for acts directly related to his official duties.

"The statute of limitations merely requires that the act be in 'connection' to official duties. As such the statute of limitations applies to all the claims in this lawsuit. The fact that the lawsuit is brought against defendant 'in his individual capacity' is irrelevant to the statute of limitations. The claimed illegality of the payment is based on defendant's position as commissioner. In this case, he received money for performing his official duties," Gregory said.

In addition, Gregory said the OAG did not plead facts to show an exception to the statute of limitations.

"The exceptions to the statute of limitations deals with the disabilities of the minor or the insane, partial payment on accounts, an extension due to absence of time of a party from the Commonwealth, and an extension in cases involving fraudulent concealment. No such facts have been alleged in the complaint. The acts alleged clearly took place more than two years prior to the filing of complaint," he said.



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 <p><b>2018 TOYOTA CAMRY FWD 4DR CAR</b> STOCK #: SP21P0176 Trans: 8-Speed Automatic w/OD Mileage: 43,3963</p> <p><b>WAS \$22,999*</b> <b>NOW \$21,999*</b></p>	
 <p><b>2016 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER LE FWD SPORT UTILITY</b> STOCK #: SP22P0013 Trans: 6-Speed Automatic w/OD Mileage: 56,897</p> <p><b>WAS \$23,999*</b> <b>NOW \$23,999*</b></p>	 <p><b>2019 TOYOTA RAV4 LE FWD SPORT UTILITY</b> STOCK #: SP22P0018 Trans: 8-Speed Automatic w/ OD Mileage: 13,140</p> <p><b>WAS \$24,999*</b> <b>NOW \$24,999*</b></p>
 <p><b>2021 TOYOTA RAV4 LE FWD SPORT UTILITY</b> STOCK #: SP21P0114 Trans: 8-Speed Automatic w/OD Mileage: 5,615</p> <p><b>WAS \$27,999*</b> <b>NOW \$27,999*</b></p>	
 <p><b>2019 HIGHLANDER TM</b> STOCK #: SP21F0196 Trans: 4-Speed Automatic w/OD Mileage: 26,101</p> <p><b>WAS \$29,999*</b> <b>NOW \$29,999*</b></p>	 <p><b>2019 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER LE FWD SPORT UTILITY</b> STOCK #: SP22F0017 Trans: 6-Speed Automatic w/ OD Mileage: 53,143</p> <p><b>WAS \$29,999*</b> <b>NOW \$29,999*</b></p>
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# Proclamations shine spotlight on libraries and their employees

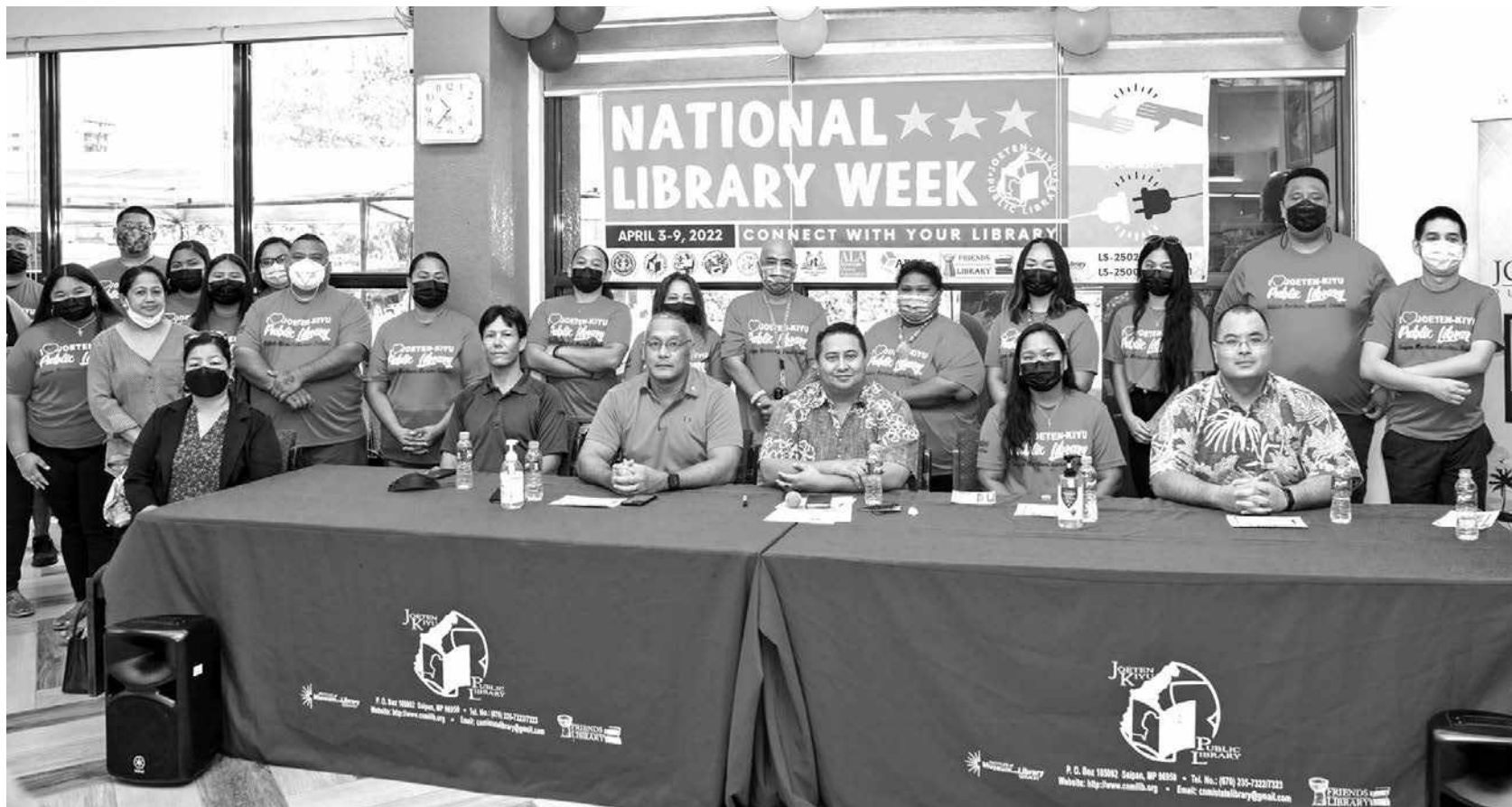
By LEIGH GASES

leigh\_gases@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library was nearly at full capacity yesterday morning after Gov. Ralph DLG Torres was joined by community members, lawmakers, and representatives of government and non-government agencies for the simultaneous signing of three proclamations that highlight the role of libraries and their employees.

The occasion saw the designation of April 3 to 9 as National Library Week, April 5 as National Library Workers Day, and today, April 6, as National Library Outreach Day. All three designations are intended to celebrate the nation's libraries, library workers' contributions and promote library use and support.

The theme for National Library Week is "Connect with Your Library," which invites the community to libraries as places to get connected by using computers, books, and oth-



Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, seated third from right, is joined by Joeten-Kiyu Public Library officials and staff, members of the House of Representatives, local government departments and agencies, local organizations, and the community for a souvenir photo after signing three proclamations yesterday that highlight the library and its workers.

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er resources. Most importantly, libraries also connect communities to each other. The theme is an invitation for communities to join, visit, or advocate for their local libraries.

Torres, after the signing, applauded librarians and all library staff for their hard work. He said that, as he entered the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, this was the most staff he's ever seen yet. According to JKPL director Erlinda Naputi, the library has 18 workers, not including interns.

Naputi "dedicates all of JKPL's successes to the hard-working and dedicated JKPL team." She is "truly humbled and honored to work with such dedicated team members who share the same passion—serving our community to the best of their ability, a true statement of public service above self."

After the signing, House of Representatives Speaker Edmund Villagomez urged the community to take advantage of the CNMI libraries' free resources, for the youth and everyone else to "connect with your library"—as is the theme for this year's Library Week.

"There is so much resources here. There's so much accessibility to the internet. ... They always say the CNMI is very far from the rest of the world, but when you think about it, with the technology that we have, it's a click away, it's a book away... so the library has those resources for our youth to connect and also learn not only about our community, but the world around them," said Villagomez.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)



# Social Security to resume in-person services by Thursday

All local Social Security Administration offices will restore in-person services, including for people without an appointment, on April 7, 2022.

A news release yesterday quoted Kilolo Kijakazi, acting commissioner of Social Security Administration, announcing the resumption of in-person services at all local Social Security offices.

"To avoid waiting in line, I strongly encourage people, who can, to use our online services at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), call us, and schedule appointments in advance rather than walking in without an appointment. Phone appoint-

ments can save you a trip to a busy office. I thank the public for your patience as we work to increase service," he said.

Customers who walk in without appointments may encounter delays and longer wait times. "Be aware that our offices tend to be the busiest first thing in the morning, early in the week, and during the early part of the month, so people may want to plan to visit at other times," he said.

"Given that many of the people we serve have health vulnerabilities, and consistent with our union agreements, we are continuing to require

certain safety measures including masking, physical distancing, and self-health checks for COVID-19 symptoms. We will provide masks to the public and employees if they need them.

"Thoughtful planning and preparation have shaped our process to restore in-person services. Social Security employees are dedicated to serving the public, and we are ready to welcome the public back to our offices. Our local managers understand and can address the needs of their communities. We have also implemented office-to-office support as well as brought recently retired employees back to assist the public. We thank the many interested stakeholders including the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Community Living and national advocate organizations for your help.

"Throughout the pandemic, millions of people have used our secure and convenient online services and received help by phone. People who have access to the internet should first try our online services before calling us or visiting an office.

"As we transition to a new modern phone system, some people may experience a busy signal or be unintentionally disconnected from their call. We sincerely regret this disruption and recommend people call when our national 800 number may be less busy, such as before 10am. or after 4pm local time or later in the week. Like our offices, our waits are generally shorter later in the month."

To learn more, visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/coronavirus/gethelp/](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/coronavirus/gethelp/) and [www.socialsecurity.gov/online-services/](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/online-services/).

## Additional information

Most Social Security services are available to the public online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) and with a my Social Security account, or by telephone. And most Social Security services do not require the public to take time to visit an office. People may create their my Social Security account, a personalized online service, at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

People who set up their my

Social Security account have access to additional personalized services. They can request a replacement Social Security card online if they meet certain requirements. If they already receive Social Security benefits, they can start or change direct deposit online, request a replacement SSA-1099, and if they need proof of their benefits, they can print or download a current Benefit Verification Letter from their account.

People not yet receiving benefits can use their online account to get a personalized

Social Security Statement, which provides their earnings information as well as estimates of their future benefits. The portal also includes a retirement calculator and links to information about other online services, such as applications for retirement, disability, and Medicare benefits.

Many Social Security services are also conveniently available by dialing toll-free, 1-800-772-1213. People who are deaf or hard of hearing may call Social Security's TTY number, 1-800-325-0778. (PR)

## Liske-Clark wins essay contest

By LEIGH GASES  
leigh\_gases@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Samantha Liske-Clark, a freshman studying at the New York University Abu Dhabi, has been named the winner of the Retta Sue Hamilton Memorial Scholarship essay contest that was organized by the non-profit group Our Common Wealth 670.

Liske-Clark, who strongly believes in conservation and hopes to use her Biology degree to protect vulnerable species, will be receiving a check for \$1,000 to pursue her higher education toward her future career.

"I am truly honored to have my essay chosen. I really appreciate this opportunity," said Liske-Clark in her email response to the announcement of her selection as the contest's winner.

In its email message congratulating Liske-Clark, the Our Common Wealth 670 board thanks her for applying for the contest and that "reading your essay reaffirms our mission and goal for a better Marianas. It also reminds us of the amazing hope and potential you and other young leaders hold—which made picking one scholarship recipient all the more difficult."

The essay contest was a celebration of Retta Sue Hamilton's life and life's work and was open to graduating CNMI high school seniors and to currently enrolled U.S. college students at an accredited university or college who graduated from a Northern Marianas high school.

Hamilton (1973-2021) was a lifelong advocate of animals and the environment. Hamilton's first rosary will be held on April 7.

According to their website, Our Common Wealth 670, is a "grassroots community group who advocates for the de-esca-

lation of militarization throughout the Marianas archipelago."

Their goal is "to protect our ancestral lands, seas and skies from irreparable damage caused by military practices and other developments that pose a threat to our health, physical environment and livelihoods by increasing awareness of current military planning and the policies that affect us the most. To do this, we actively engage in public education, research and advocacy that promotes the unique beauty and importance of our islands and cultures."

Spread the word and join them by emailing ourcommonwealth670@gmail.com.



Liske Clark



Hamilton

RODNEY S. CABARLES, VACANT Chairman  
JOHANA C. CALDAN, VACANT Secretary  
JUANITA C. REYES, VACANT Treasurer  
MEGANE M. MEDRIDA, VACANT Board Member

Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands  
**TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD**  
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan  
PO Box 520059 • San Jose Village • Tinian, MP 96952  
Phone (670) 433-0504 • Fax (670) 433-1819  
Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Board Meeting on Friday, April 08, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at the Tinian Public Library, San Jose Village, Tinian. We welcome the Public to attend.

## AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Roll Call
  - C. Adoption of Agenda
  - D. Adoption of Minutes
    - November 23, 2021 (Special Meeting)
    - March 04, 2022 (Special Meeting)
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS\*
- III. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Preparation for relocation to TJSHS
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Composition of TMS Staff
  - B. Budget 2023
  - C. Challenges vs. Priorities
- V. MISCELLANEOUS
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

/s/Rodney S. Cabarles  
Chairman

\*We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.  
\*Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.  
\*Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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### Accountant

#### Job Duties:

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#### Location of Employment: Saipan

Applicants for this position must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy with 60 months work experience as an Accountant. Interested applicants should send their application and resume to the employer (by mail: P.O. Box 505979 CK Saipan, MP 96950; by email: Where\_Is\_Amelia@hotmail.com).

## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
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[WWW.CNMIPTS.COM](http://WWW.CNMIPTS.COM)

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES AIR-SIDE

### PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-004-22

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for grounds maintenance services of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Proposal Package will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning March 18, 2022.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Grounds Maintenance Services (Air-Side) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport Project No-CPA-RFP-004-22". One original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, APRIL 18, 2022, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

There will be no Pre-Proposal Conference but proposers will be allowed to do Site Visits by calling CPA Deputy Executive Director, Ed Mendiola at telephone numbers 237-6505 during working hours.

Written questions and/or clarifications regarding this project will be entertained up till April 11, 2022.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this RFP; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding this project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA, CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of CPA.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

March 14, 2022

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**  
Main Office: Saipan International Airport  
P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 236-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962  
[www.cnmiports.com](http://www.cnmiports.com)

## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES REQUIRED UNDER 14 CFR PART 139

### CPA-RFP-003-22

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (RFP), and other contract provisions, for proposals from individuals, professional firms, companies and/or corporations to provide instructional training services specific to airports pertaining to the requirements imposed by 14 CFR Part 139, and related federal airport and safety policies applicable to airfield operations contained in the Airport Certification Manual (ACM). The Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the CPA because the CPA wishes to acquire services and products that cannot be evaluated by cost alone (NMIAC § 40-50-225(a)).

The successful proposer shall conduct instructional training services at the Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) facility, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposals must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands no later than 4:30 PM, MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022. Proposals received after this date and time will not be considered and will be returned unopened. One original and three copies of each proposal shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked as "Confidential" and each envelope must include the RFP number on the outside. It is the sole responsibility of a proposer to submit its proposal or proposals in a timely manner.

The Proposal Package is available for pick up at the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport beginning March 25, 2022. There is no charge for the proposal package.

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50, Procurement Rules and Regulations of Title 40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC). Title 40, including Chapter 40-50-225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to [cpa.admin@cpa.com](mailto:cpa.admin@cpa.com).

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ Christopher S. Tenorio  
Executive Director

March 2022



# Opinion

Hafa Adair

## Saipan Tribune

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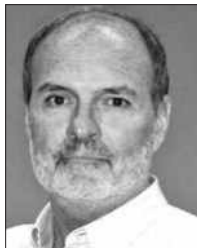
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### EDITORIAL

## Clarence Thomas should be as candid as Ginni

By JOHN M. CRISP  
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at [jcrispcolumns@gmail.com](mailto:jcrispcolumns@gmail.com).

Justice Clarence Thomas is not going to resign from the Supreme Court. He will not be impeached. And anyone who imagines that Thomas will recuse himself from cases before the Court that are connected to his wife's efforts to overthrow the 2020 election is mistaken.

The right has worked hard to engineer a six-member conservative majority on the Court, and now that it has the power, it will use it. In fact, we can expect the right to continue to embrace the essential principle of modern American politics: Concede nothing.

If you want to argue that the left is sometimes as bad about this as the right, well, OK, I'll concede your point.

But Republicans have a special penchant for declining to concede anything—even elections—especially if they can make the left squirm. They have a term for it: "owning the libs."

But the libs have a right to be concerned about a Supreme Court justice whose wife is deeply committed to invalidating an entirely legitimate election. Even if Thomas is able to isolate his jurisprudential reasoning from his wife's fantasies of voter fraud, shouldn't all Americans expect the appearance of evenhandedness and the rejection of conflicts of interest?

Not according to conservative columnist George Will, who in last week's Washington Post dismissed concerns about the appearance of impartiality on the Court as mere "kerfuffle."

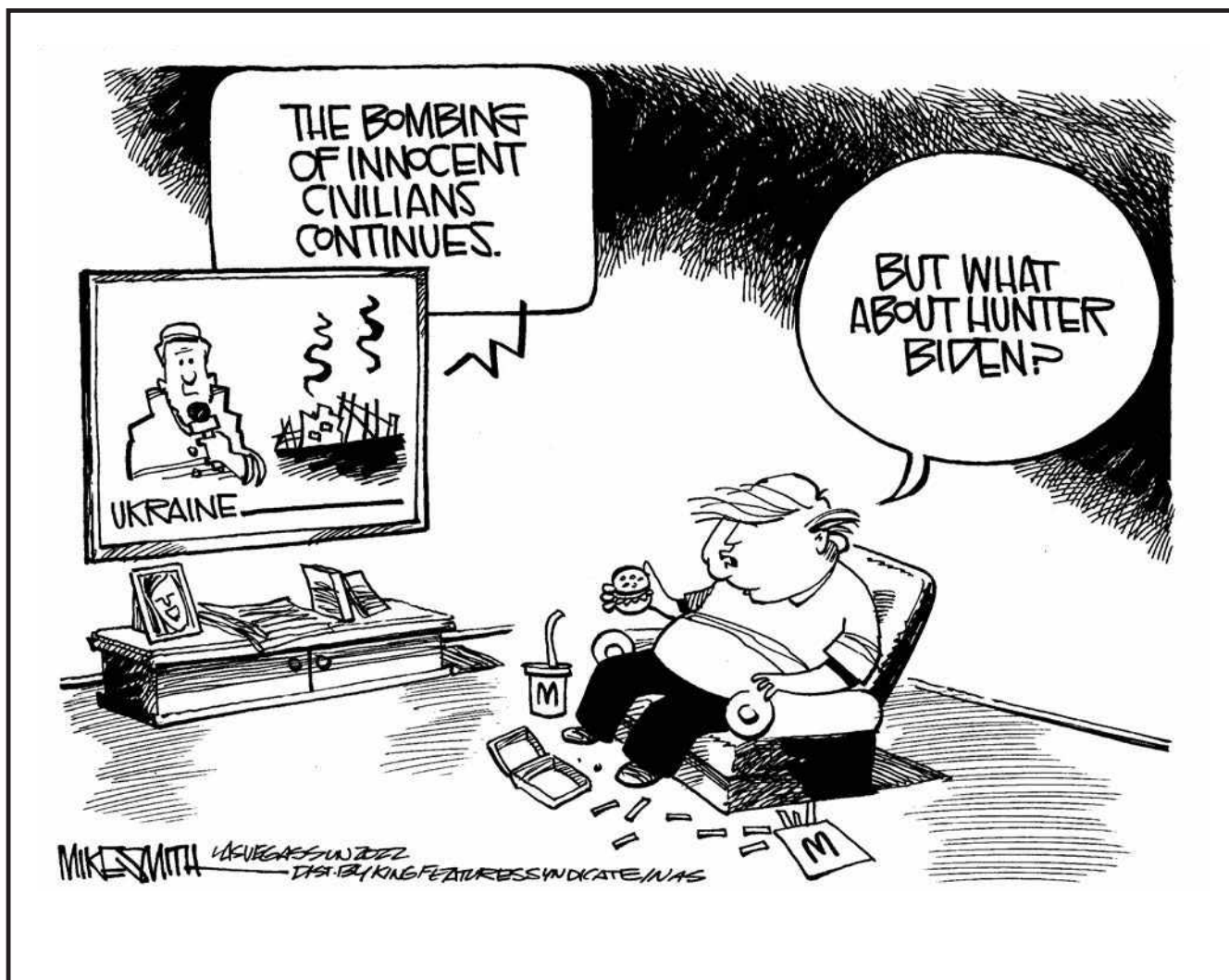
Will admits that Thomas's wife, Ginni Thomas, is mistaken, and he describes her confusion in terms worth quoting: "The shelves of her mental pantry groan beneath the weight of Trumpian hysterics about the 2020 presidential election having been stolen and the republic's certain ruin under Joe Biden."

But Will does not concede that Ginni Thomas has any influence over Justice Thomas, suggesting that anyone who has a problem with "appearances" on the Court has a problem himself.

But I have two problems with this casual dismissal of appearances:

The first is access. I don't know what the pillow talk is like around the Thomas household, but nothing about Ginni suggests that she is reluctant to express her opinions. It's easy to imagine that in all matters related to the 2020 election, Clarence Thomas has been subjected to a persistent

See CLARENCE on Next Page



## Toxic masculinity boiling over

It was the slap felt 'round the world.

Will Smith, one of the biggest movie stars on the planet, walked onstage and slapped comedian Chris Rock during the 94th Academy Awards. In front of a live, mostly white audience. During a live telecast watched by millions across the globe. It was so outrageous that many people initially thought it was a joke, part of the script. But then Smith returned to his seat and yelled to Rock, "Keep my wife's name out of your f----- mouth."

Those of us who saw it live were shocked. Toxic masculinity can indeed abruptly show up in shocking, at times violent ways.

As a scholar of men's studies, I teach that "toxic masculinity" is demonstrations of boyhood and manhood that are harmful to oneself and others. In many ways it is a cocktail of the worst behaviors and attitudes a dude can have.

It causes him to act without self-control and to perform macho stereotypes. In many instances, it is fueled by presumptions about how men are supposed to act. It is this last feature that was on full display at the Oscars.

Rock made a joke about Jada Pinkett Smith, Will Smith's wife, starring in a sequel to the movie "G.I. Jane." It was a joke about her appearance. There is a chance that most people interpreted the comment as just that, but I understood it differently.

Over this last year, I have watched social media videos of Jada Pinkett Smith talking about struggling with and ultimately coming to terms with her hair loss. Her husband first laughed at the comedian's joke. Jada Pinkett Smith, on the other hand, was visibly annoyed. It could be that in a split second, her husband recognized that she felt publicly humiliated by a joke about something that has been so personally painful to her.

Here enters the toxic masculinity. Will Smith storms onstage and slaps the man who insulted his wife.

I have a spouse whom I deeply love. Honestly, if someone did to him what Rock did to Smith's wife, especially about something I knew was an emotional pain point for him, I would have felt compelled to slap that person, too. I would not have actually done it, though. Undeniably, a better path would have been for Smith to walk onstage, say to Rock, "You just hurt my wife," and ask him to please apologize. The ideal first step would have been for Smith to ask his wife what she wanted—which maybe he did.

Toxic masculinity compels a guy to go immediately into bar fight mode when someone says or does something disrespectful to someone he loves. But what if slapping or fighting someone isn't what the disrespected person wants or needs? Or even if it is, and the person says so, why not take a moment to pursue a range of alternatives to violence? Movies, television shows, vid-

By SHAUN HARPER  
Los Angeles Times

Shaun Harper is a professor at the University of Southern California and executive director of the USC Race and Equity Center. He is the editor of *College Men and Masculinities*.

eo games, other forms of media and messages we have received all our lives have conditioned us men to act in ways that can be violent or otherwise toxic in moments like these.

In his acceptance speech for actor in a leading role just a few minutes later, Smith said that he is feeling "called" to be a protector at this time in his life. I suppose that the act of violence was his way of protecting his wife. The "real men are protectors" expectation is firmly entrenched in toxic masculinity. Again, as a married man, I get it. I just know that protection doesn't have to be violent.

Then there is the aftermath with Rock. It's where toxic masculinity is addressed through restorative justice, another concept that social scientists like me often teach and write about. The most important act of restorative justice in this violent confrontation between two Black men is to ask Rock what would make this situation right for him, then having Smith authentically issue an apology and do all he can to meet Rock's expectations for harm repair. On Monday afternoon, Smith did apologize to Rock on Instagram.

Recovering from a lifetime of toxic masculinity requires us men to step back and be incredibly mindful of the myriad ways we have been socialized to handle anger in our interactions with other men, women and genderqueer persons. Thinking honestly about what it is we have been told "real men" do, and often then doing the opposite.

Will Smith is 53 years old, which confirms that toxic masculinity is not about immaturity. It is not a thing that men naturally grow out of. Some of us embody aspects of it our entire lives. Understanding what it is and how it shows up in our attitudes and behaviors might just save us from inflicting harm on ourselves and others.

It could have saved Smith from tarnishing one of the most rewarding nights of his career, as he won an Oscar for the first time. Now an unfortunate and avoidable cloud will forever shadow that moment.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Conservation is the big picture

*Editor's Note: The following is the winning essay in the Retta Sue Hamilton Scholarship Essay Competition.*

I remember once I chose a college, I had the same conversation with my friends, over and over:

"You're going where?"

"NYUAD."

"..."

"New York University Abu Dhabi."

"...?"

"They have this really great biology program, plus it'll give me a chance to learn from an international perspective. See the world, you know?"

"...Well good luck I guess."

I know I made a somewhat unorthodox decision when I chose to leave home and go halfway across the world. Even though I miss my island terribly, I intend to push my boundaries and study the environment from a global perspective. I want to be a conservation biologist and protect the Marianas' crucial natural resources from destruction. It's important to me that I learn to see the big picture because conservation is the big picture. It goes

beyond any single country or individual. I believe that we, as human beings, have a responsibility to our planet and I want to be able to protect it. Petty partisan squabbles seem outright ridiculous when compared to the extinction of indigenous species. Every living being on this planet is part of a delicate lattice of interconnections forming our biosphere. What happens all the way [in] the U.S. mainland can have substantial effects on our islands. So I thought, why not go abroad and get an outside perspective?

You might think I sound naive or melodramatic, going on about "saving the planet." Make no mistake, I know protecting our islands will not be easy. I don't have to imagine the amount of work it's going to take. I've lived it. I've seen our vibrant coral reefs, those unique rainbow homes for local fish species, those stoic protectors of our shores during storms, reduced to bleached and crumbling skeletons seemingly overnight. I've seen our "Save Pagan" stickers plastered across the island as we fought to the last breath to protect habitat and heritage alike in the Northern Islands. Twenty years ago, Tanapag, my own village, had been suffering the effects of PCB chemicals from the transformer canisters the military had left behind. My home was toxic. I know exactly how difficult conservation work is, that's

### By SAMANTHA LISKE-CLARK

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Samantha Liske-Clark is currently a freshman studying at New York University Abu Dhabi. She strongly believes in conservation and hopes to use her Biology degree to protect vulnerable species. When she's not studying, she enjoys travel, and reading sci-fi.*



exactly why I want to do this. It's not starry-eyed optimism; it is grim determination.

Here, I'm studying to protect our oceans from rising temperatures, acidification, and yes, humans. I believe that the work we do to safeguard our islands and conserve the natural environment matters, not just for ourselves but for our descendants. I love my island, I miss it every day, but I know that everything I learn here is going to help me protect my home. Our descendants deserve the beauty and the bounty of i tano' yan i tasi.

## Bucha's atrocities are not Russia's first. They must be the last

It's hard to read the reports emerging from Bucha and other Kyiv suburbs, and nearly impossible to look at the images. Retreating Russian soldiers have left evidence of unthinkable brutality. Ordinary men and women lie dead on the street, in the dark mud and dirt, many shot, some with hands tied behind their back. People were found still clutching shopping bags, one splayed next to a tangled bicycle. There are mass graves, and there's evidence of torture. Ukrainian authorities say the bodies of 410 civilians have been recovered from towns around the capital.

Even without knowing precisely what happened, it's clear that Bucha and incidents like it are an outrage: war crimes of hideous proportions. But this should not come as a shock. Russian forces have used just such tactics before, and will do so again—unless Europe, the U.S. and other allied nations move swiftly on the back of this horror. They need to make the cost of this war not just steep for Russia, whose economy has begun to stabilize since massive sanctions were first imposed, but intolerable. And yes, that means advancing beyond efforts to close loopholes for banks and technology, and tackling, at last, Russian oil and gas exports.

Naysayers in Brussels and elsewhere are right to fear the impact of such measures on consumers at home. There would be an inflationary shock and a hit to growth in Europe. But there is no credible option that comes at zero cost. And Western leaders should remember that this is not about avenging Bucha or any other single town—it's about preventing the many other atrocities that Russian forces, ill-disciplined and dealing with citizens dehumanized by Kremlin propaganda, will undoubtedly commit. Inaction costs lives and endangers us all.

It's crucial to understand that what we are seeing in the wake of the Russian withdrawal is more than the consequence of war, because even in war, there are basic rules. Here, Ukraine has accused Russian soldiers of killing unarmed civilians, and evidence seen by journalists and human rights activists supports that. Human Rights Watch says it has documented deliberate cruelty and violence in occupied areas, including rape, summary execution, looting and more. In Bucha, it found one instance where soldiers forced men to kneel on the side of the road, pulled their t-shirts over their

faces, and shot one of them in the back of the head.

For long-time Russia-watchers this will seem horribly familiar, and that's because it is. Moscow used similar tactics in Chechnya, particularly during the second war that began on Vladimir Putin's watch in 1999, when arbitrary arrests, torture, disappearances and summary executions were used to flush out rebels and cow the local population. Undeclared towns and villages were assaulted with no military justification. What happened in Bucha over the past weeks happened in towns outside Grozny in early 2000, when Human Rights Watch and other groups documented pillaging, extortion, rape, and reported that civilians were forced out of hiding and summarily shot at close range. Then, the killings, like those in Bucha, were met with Kremlin denials.

Ukraine is not Chechnya. This is an independent country of 44 million, not a rebel province where Russia was supposedly fighting Islamic extremists. But the comparison matters because in Chechnya terror became a legitimate tactic, woven into strategy—these were not an isolated incidents of excess. How? In large part because official Russian rhetoric around Chechnya associated the local population with combatants, and combatants with terrorists, therefore everyone became a legitimate target.

Ukrainians, resisting far more than Russia expected, appear to have been labeled in just the same way. Nazism, Moscow's propagandists have argued to explain their slow progress, has penetrated deep into Ukrainian society, and so it needs to be "cleansed."

All of this should galvanize Western leaders and encourage them to act fast. Russia has reacted with familiar what-aboutism. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has already given a rousing speech berating "concentrated evil," appealing directly in Russian to the mothers of Moscow's soldiers and to the country's leaders, enumerating the horrors: "This is how the Russian state will be perceived. This is your image now. Your culture and your humanity died with the Ukrainian men and women you came for."

But what will the West do? It's clear Russia can inflict plenty of damage, even without chemical weapons. These tactics do not deliver victory, but can sow unthinkable destruction.

In short, while Ginni Thomas may be particularly outspoken, she cannot be dismissed as an outlying crackpot. I don't know if she actually believes the election was stolen or whether her position—in the face of all the contrary evidence—is merely a refusal to concede. But the really important question here is not what Ginni thinks, but what Clarence thinks.

Justice Thomas could defuse concerns about his wife's influence, as well as the impartiality of the Court, by telling us whether he thinks the 2020 election was legitimate. Of course, justices should not telegraph how they will rule on particular cases, but Thomas has never been shy about revealing his outlook and opinions.

### By CLARA FERREIRA MARQUES

Bloomberg Opinion

*Clara Ferreira Marques is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering commodities and environmental, social and governance issues. Previously, she was an associate editor for Reuters Breakingviews, and editor and correspondent for Reuters in Singapore, India, the U.K., Italy and Russia.*



Every part of occupied Ukraine is unsafe. It's also apparent that the current set of sanctions, while extensive, will not stop the war fast enough, nor will other measures currently on the table, strengthening existing actions—with export controls on technology and applying more restrictions for banks—and expanding the list of sanctioned individuals. Russia's economy is badly bruised, but it has adjusted, and the central bank is still able to provide support.

Going after oil and gas—and the West together still buys the largest share of what Russia produces—would be a much tougher blow, battering Moscow's finances and its ability to withstand other sanctions already in place. Elina Ribakova, deputy chief economist at the Institute of International Finance, estimated over the weekend that an energy embargo would wipe out Russia's current account surplus and hit its fiscal position. Any such action, to be clear, will be painful for the West too, particularly Europe, where curtailing Russian gas will require significant social support to help the poorest cope. But it can be done—high prices dampen demand, and a war in Europe is not exactly without cost.

And China? There the picture is predictably complicated. It's unlikely that humanitarian concerns will push Beijing off the fence, not least because its own citizens will not see the footage shocking viewers elsewhere. But the impact of these horrors on inflation and global growth, at a time when Beijing is dealing with significant COVID-19 disarray at home, just might.

He publicly professes a faith in God, as well as an affinity for Ayn Rand. He has said, "I certainly have some very strong libertarian leanings."

If Thomas is willing to reveal this much about himself, why can't he tell us whether he believes the election was legitimate? He could support Ginni's right to her opinion, but he might be able to reassure Americans who are concerned about politicization of the Court simply by being as straightforward and honest as his wife.

The notion of a Supreme Court justice who believes—against all evidence—that the current administration is illegitimate is deeply alarming. Justice Thomas could alleviate much of the concern just by telling us what he thinks about the election.

## CLARENCE

From Page 8






oral argument with no opportunity to hear a rebuttal.

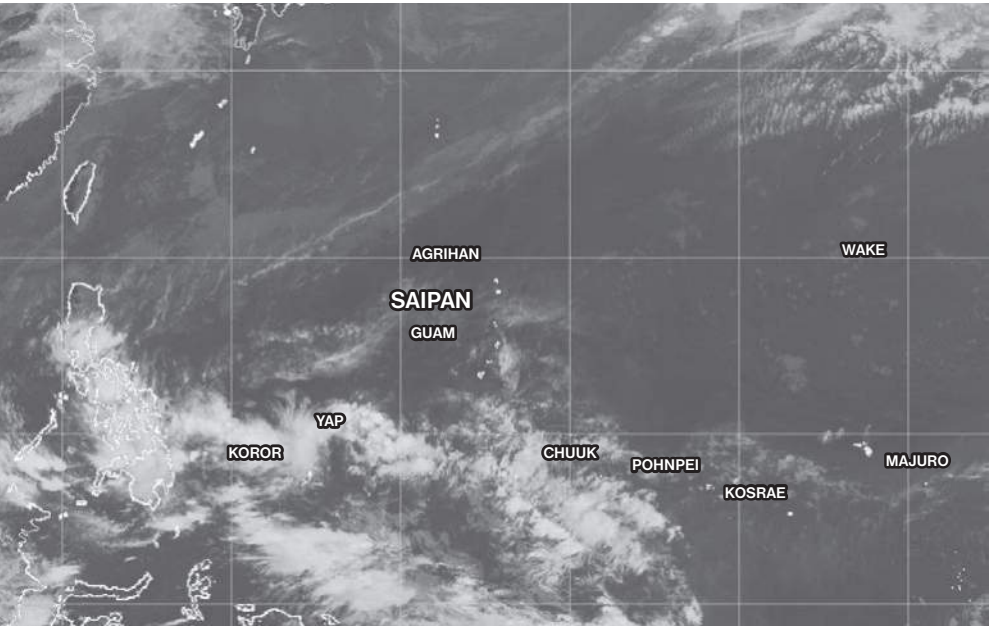
But here's a bigger problem: George Will casually dismisses Ginni's opinions, calling her "politically, mad as a hatter." The problem is that, in fact, her opinions are not exactly on the Republican fringe.

According to a recent University of Massachusetts at Amherst poll, only 21% of Republicans say that Joe Biden's victory in 2020 was legitimate. Eighty-three percent say that "fraudulent ballots" were counted for Joe Biden.



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Breezy. Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. breezy Friday		Partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of showers.		Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.	
86°	77°	86°	78°	87°	78°	85°	76°	86°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:28 AM, TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2022  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A dry trade-wind pattern persists across the area with moderate trades and isolated showers. Buoys and altimetry data show seas of 7 to 8 feet with some higher seas farther to the east and southeast. A weak circulation, JTWC Invest 95W, persists southeast of Chuuk.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

## STOP THE SPREAD

**T**he Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

**Continue good hand hygiene**

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

**Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic**

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
  - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
  - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

onds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

**Rumor control**

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

*Source: Office of the Governor*

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MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy/Wind	30 / 25 °F	
Palau	Thunderstorms	28 / 25 °F	
Yap	Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	28 / 26 °F	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	05:51 AM	18:35 PM
Thursday	05:51 AM	18:35 PM
Friday	05:51 AM	18:36 PM
Saturday	05:50 AM	18:36 PM
Sunday	05:50 AM	18:36 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	09:26	22:48 PM	-
Thursday	10:12	23:40 PM	-
Friday	11:01	-	17:46
Saturday	-	00:31 PM	11:52
Sunday	-	01:20 PM	12:45

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	23 / 18 °F	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	25 / 7 °F	
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	24 / 19 °F	
Honolulu	Sunny	27 / 21 °F	
London	Light Rain	14 / 9 °F	
Los Angeles	Sunny	32 / 17 °F	
Manila	PM Thunderstorms	33 / 26 °F	
Melbourne	AM Showers	21 / 14 °F	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	29 / 25 °F	
New York	AM Rain	12 / 9 °F	
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	16 / 10 °F	
Paris	PM Light Rain	16 / 10 °F	
Busan	Sunny	19 / 9 °F	
Rome	Rain	14 / 8 °F	
Salem	Thunderstorms	25 / 12 °F	
San Francisco	Sunny	22 / 11 °F	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	18 / 6 °F	
Tokyo	AM Clouds/PM Sun	18 / 10 °F	
Washington, DC	AM Showers	18 / 11 °F	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
04:58 AM	Low Tide	1.09	
09:50 AM	High Tide	1.64	
5:13 PM	Low Tide	0.07	
-	High Tide	-	

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 28, 2022

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:40AM	7:20AM	1, 3, 5	UA116	5:00AM	5:45AM	1, 3, 5
UA117	9:50AM	10:35AM	2, 4, 6, 7	UA116	8:00AM	8:45AM	6, 7
				UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	2, 4
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	6:35AM	8:35AM	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	R110	10:35PM	4:35AM+1	2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:05AM+1	5 via Palau
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5
UA117/183	6:40AM	9:10PM	1, 3, 5 via Guam	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/193	6:40AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/116	10:40pm	6:16am+1	5 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	2, 4, 6, 7 via Guam	UA184/174	10:40pm	8:46am+1	2 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				UA184/116	10:55pm	6:16am+1	1, 3 via Guam
RS112	3:15PM	7:00PM	3, 6	UA184/174	10:55pm	8:46am+1	4, 7 via Guam
TW9308	3:30PM	7:20PM	4, 7	UA184/116	10:55pm	8:46am+1	6 via Guam
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6	INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	3	RS111	8:15AM	1:35PM	3, 6
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6	7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				7C3406	8:50AM	2:30PM	3
7C3451	2:00PM	5:20PM	3, 7	TW9307	9:00AM	2:30PM	4, 7
				OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	8:00AM	1:00PM	3, 7				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

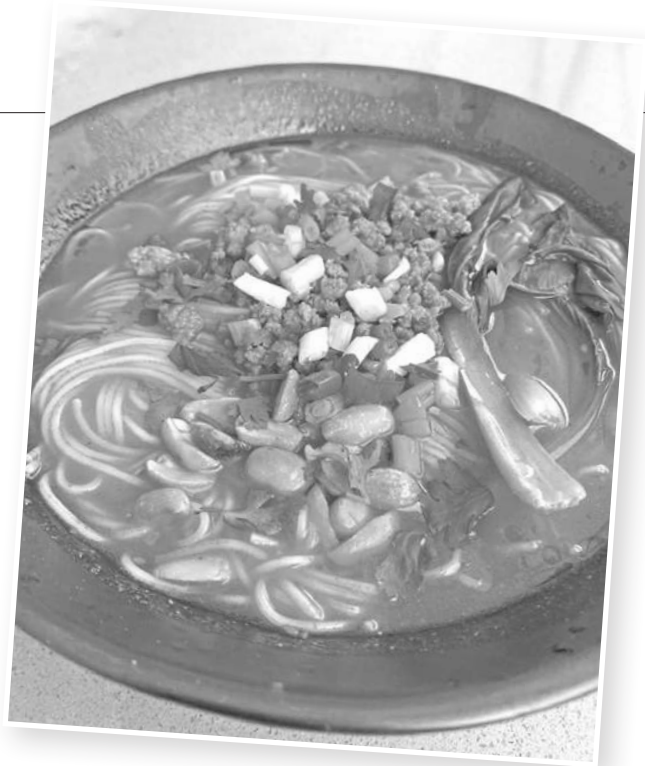
### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily	1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri Daily	1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily	1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri Daily	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily	2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO GUAM				2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable



# Business

## Angel's Flour House: Food that fits the budget and fills the tummy



BEA CABRERA

Hearty Sichuan Dandan Noodle soup is available all day at Angel's Flour House for only \$5.

By **BEA CABRERA**  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Angel's Flour House on Alai-hai Ave. in Garapan offers authentic Chinese breakfast items that are affordable and so fresh that one sees them being lifted straight from the steamer, pot, or wok. It's a testament to the quality of their food that they have already developed a loyal following since opening only in July last year, according to owner Lili Zou.

"We open our doors early to accommodate early risers, people who are on the way to work and school. We serve Chinese dishes for breakfast and lunch, which is always

warm, fresh, and hearty to help people have a good start in their day or if they go for lunch, help them have that energy throughout the rest of the afternoon," she said.

Aside from the tasty dishes, the prices at Angel's Flour House are very reasonable. For example, for only \$5 you can already have a complete meal.

Authentic Chinese noodle dishes served in a bowl—like hot & sour, Sichuan Dandan, tomato with egg, sauerkraut with pork, mustard tuber with pork and green pepper—go for only \$5.

If you are a rice person, they offer rice toppings like tomato/pepper rice, leek with pork rice,

fried rice with scallion, fried rice with beef for only \$5. If you are into dumplings, they have fried or steamed for only \$6. For health buffs, they have Chinese salad and tofu dishes.

It won't be a Chinese breakfast if buns are not in the equation. They serve steamed buns with different fillings like vegetable, sour cabbage with pork, beef and mushroom with pork for \$0.75 cents apiece. If you have a sweet tooth, they have custard buns of only

\$0.50 cents apiece.

Zou said she keeps prices reasonable because she knows that all workers have been hit hard by the pandemic—a situation she knows all too well. "I was working in the tourism industry but when the pandemic hit, we had zero tourists and everything went from slow to nothing. That is why I know how it feels to be in a tight budget and making ends

meet," she said.

Using the funds she has saved up, she was able to put up Angel's House. "I want to

be able to serve good but affordable food because

I know many people in the community are having a hard time. Even if I only make a little money, as long as I maintain the low pricing for everybody," she added.

Aside from Chinese dishes, Angel's House will also serve

crepe dishes starting next week. Early this year, Angel's House opened a kiosk at Kada Dia Chalan Kanoa. They serve the same dishes as the ones in the Garapan branch.

Angel's House Garapan is open from Monday to Sunday from 6am to 2pm and Angel's House in Kada Dia Chalan Kanoa is open Monday to Sunday, from 7am to 6:30pm. To order, call (670) 483-1119 or go to their Facebook page: Angel's Flour House.



BEA CABRERA

Angel's Flour House owner Lili Zou poses at their Garapan branch. The restaurant is open for dine in or take out.

## Turning carbon dioxide into sustainable fuel

United Airlines Ventures and Oxy Low Carbon Ventures has announced a collaboration with Houston-based biotech firm Cemvita Factory to commercialize the production of sustainable aviation fuel, or SAF, intended to be developed through a revolutionary new process using carbon dioxide and synthetic microbes.

UAV also announced an equity investment in Cemvita Factory. OLCV, a subsidiary of Occidental, is a founding investor in Cemvita Factory.

SAF is an alternative to jet fuel that uses non-petroleum feedstock and offers lower lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions. United has invested in more SAF production than any other airline.

"At United, we have been consistent in leading the airline industry with bold action when it comes to fighting climate change—companies like Cemvita Factory to create and commercialize new SAF technologies," said Michael Leskinen, president of United Airlines Ventures. "This is truly a global imperative, and this cooperation with Oxy Low Carbon Ventures reflects our dedication to building relationships across sectors and working with companies aligned with our sustainability goals."

### » United and Oxy Low Carbon Ventures announce collaboration with biotech firm to create new fuel sources

United and OLCV have previously worked together on new approaches to combat climate change. Together, UAV and OLCV will fund development work at Cemvita to convert carbon dioxide into hydrocarbons for SAF. If performance targets are achieved, UAV and OLCV plan to form a joint venture to commercialize the technology. This includes funding projects such as pilot and demo plants, engineering studies, financing construction and operating SAF plants.

"The use of SAF is a promising approach that we believe can significantly reduce global emissions from aviation and

further decarbonization initiatives to combat climate change," said Richard Jackson, president, Operations, U.S. Onshore Resources and Carbon Management, Oxy. "We are eager to collaborate with United and Cemvita to accelerate SAF innovation to reach commercial scale."

Last Thursday's announcement makes Cemvita the third SAF-related technology to receive an investment from UAV. Launched in 2021, UAV targets startups, upcoming technologies, and sustainability concepts that will complement United's goal of net zero emissions by 2050—without

relying on traditional carbon offsets. United has aggressively pursued strategic investments in SAF producers and revolutionary technologies including carbon capture, hydrogen-electric engines, electric regional aircraft, and urban air mobility. SAF has the potential to deliver the performance of petroleum-based jet fuel but with a fraction of its carbon footprint on a life-cycle basis.

Cemvita Factory uses synthetic biology to turn carbon dioxide into chemicals and alternative fuels, including sustainable aviation fuel. Cemvita is among the first to employ this technology to support heavy industry decarbonization and, find ways to use microbiology to turn carbon dioxide into fuel. (PR)

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Medicare enrollees to get free COVID-19 tests at drug stores

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Amid worries that the latest coronavirus variant could spark another rise in cases, Medicare announced Monday that millions of enrollees will finally have access to free over-the-counter COVID-19 tests at drug stores. More than 59 million people with Medicare's "Part B" outpatient coverage will be able to get up to eight free at-home tests per month, or enough for an individual to test twice a week, as some doctors have recommended. Medicare has lagged private insurance in following the Biden administration's directive to cover at-home tests because rules and regulations stood in the way, and officials had to find a work-around. This is the first time the health insurance program for older people and those with disabilities has covered an over-the-counter test at no cost to recipients.

#### Suddenly, Twitter's biggest stakeholder is Tesla's Elon Musk

Tesla CEO Elon Musk has acquired a 9% stake in Twitter to become its largest shareholder while joining other critics in questioning the social media platform's dedication to free speech and the First Amendment. Musk's ultimate aim in acquiring 73.5 million shares, worth about \$3 billion, isn't clear. Yet in late March Musk, who has 80 million Twitter followers and is active on the site, questioned free speech on Twitter and whether the platform is undermining democracy. In years past, Twitter and other social platforms have taken fire for allowing harmful speech ranging from incitement to violence to coordinated harassment and racial abuse. More recently, these platforms have made concerted efforts to rein in such behavior, often drawing criticism similar to Musk's from the political right. Both Twitter and Facebook faced blowback after suspending the accounts run by former President Donald Trump following the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection last year. (AP)



UNITED AIRLINES

This United Airlines plane was the first flight to use 100% sustainable aviation fuel, or SAF.



# Nation

## Arrest made in connection with Sacramento mass shooting

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** (AP)—Sacramento police arrested a man Monday connected to the shooting that killed six people and wounded a dozen others in the heart of California's capital as multiple shooters fired more than 100 rapid-fire rounds and people ran for their lives.

Police said they booked Dandrae Martin, 26, as a "related suspect" on charges of assault with a deadly weapon and being a convict carrying a loaded gun. Detectives and SWAT team members found one handgun during searches of three area homes.

The arrest came as the three women and three men killed were identified in the shooting that occurred at about 2 a.m. Sunday as bars were closing and patrons filled the streets near the state Capitol.

The fallen included a father



A person passes a memorial near the location of a mass shooting in Sacramento, Calif., Monday, April 4, 2022. AP

of four, a young woman who wanted to be a social worker, a man described as the life of the party, and a woman who lived on the streets nearby and was looking for housing.

The Sacramento County coroner identified the women killed as Johnntaya Alexander, 21; Melinda Davis, 57; and Yamile Martinez-Andrade, 21. The three men were Sergio Harris, 38; Joshua Hoye-Lucchesi, 32; and De'vazia Turner, 29.

Turner, who had three daughters and a son, was a "protector" who worked as the night manager at an inventory company, his mother, Penelope Scott, told The Associated Press. He rarely went out, and she had no reason to believe he would be in harm's way when he left her house after he visited Saturday night.

"My son was walking down the street and somebody started shooting, and he got shot. Why is that to happen?" Scott said. "I feel like I've got a hole in my heart."

The burst of gunshots sent people running in terror in the neighborhood just a few blocks from the arena where the NBA's Sacramento Kings play.

Detectives were trying to determine if a stolen handgun found at the crime scene was connected to the shooting, Police Chief Kathy Lester said. Witnesses answered her plea for help by providing more than 100 videos and photos of evidence.

District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert noted Martin was not arrested on suspicion of homicide, but suggested investigators were making progress.

## Study finds higher homicide risk in homes with handguns

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Most U.S. gun owners say they own firearms to protect themselves and their loved ones, surveys show. But a study published Monday suggests people who live with handgun owners are shot to death at a higher rate than those who don't have such weapons at home.

"We found zero evidence of any kind of protective effects" from living in a home with a handgun, said David Studdert, a Stanford University researcher who was the lead author of the *Annals of Internal Medicine* study.

The study has several shortcomings. For example, the researchers said they could not determine which victims were killed by the handgun owners or with the in-home weapons. They

couldn't account for illegal guns and looked only at handguns, not rifles or other firearms.

The dataset also was limited to registered voters in California who were 21 and older. It's not clear that the findings are generalizable to the whole state, let alone to the rest of the country, the authors acknowledged.

But some outside experts said the work was well done, important and the largest research of its kind.

"I would call this a landmark study," said Cassandra Crifasi, a gun violence policy researcher at Johns Hopkins University. "This contributes to our understanding of the potential causal relationship between guns in the home and homicides," she said.



A sales clerk holds a pistol during an auction in Rochester, Wash., on Oct. 20, 2017. AP

California is unusual in that it offers gun ownership data and other information not obtainable in almost any other state. That allowed the researchers to follow millions of people over many years

to try to better establish what happens when a person begins living in a home with handgun, they said.

The study focused on nearly 600,000 Californians who did not own handguns but began

living in homes with handguns between October 2004 and December 2016—either because they started living with someone who owned one or because someone in their household bought one.

The researchers calculated that for every 100,000 people in that situation, 12 will be shot to death by someone else over five years. In comparison, eight out of 100,000 who live in gun-free homes will be killed that way over the same time span.

"The rates are low" and the absolute risk is small, but it's important to consider the increase in a person's risk of being killed, Studdert said.

Those numbers suggest the risk rises 50%, but Studdert said it's actually higher: In a separate calculation designed to better account for where people live and other factors, the researchers estimated the risk was actually more than twice as high.

Separately, the researchers found that those who lived with handgun owners had a much higher rate of being fatally shot by a spouse or intimate partner. The vast majority of such victims—84%—were women, they said.

The study was confined to California, but the risk is likely even greater in states with less stringent gun laws and where gun ownership is more common, Crifasi said.

## Prosecutor: Con man plied daughter's friends for sex, cash

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A man who bragged about ruining the career of an ex-New York City police commissioner who once seemed destined for a national post was a con man who coerced his daughter's college friends into obeying his commands and supplying him with millions of dollars, a prosecutor told a jury Monday.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Bracewell urged Manhattan federal court jurors during a closing argument to convict Lawrence Ray of charges including racketeering, conspiracy, forced labor, sex trafficking and obstruction of justice.

"Bring Lawrence Ray to justice," she said as the defendant scribbled notes while lawyers summarized a month of evidence.

Ray's lawyer, Marne Lenox,

countered that Ray was a victim of the young people he lived with who made him feel paranoid and under attack.

"Everyone was out to get him, Larry believed," Lenox said, portraying his daughter's friends as "storytellers" who he believed had intentionally poisoned him.

Closings were to continue Tuesday in an unusual trial that featured testimony from several of the men and women who lived with Ray for much of the last decade before his arrest in early 2020 disrupted what Bracewell characterized as the operations of a crime syndicate she labeled the "Ray Family."

The trial was twice interrupted so Ray, 62, could be taken to the hospital for treatment of medical issues that

Judge Lewis J. Liman assured jurors was unrelated to the coronavirus.

In her closing, Lenox said Ray in the fall of 2010 impressed friends of his daughter at her on-campus dormitory at Sarah Lawrence College with his claims that he'd spoiled the rise of former New York City police Commissioner Bernard Kerik after serving as best man at his wedding.

She said he told them that people including Kerik were out to get him.

Kerik was the city's police commissioner from 2000 to 2001, serving during the 9/11 attacks, and he nearly became President George Bush's homeland security secretary in 2004, but his name was abruptly withdrawn as the nominee.

Shortly afterward, the *Daily News* reported that Ray, who was under indictment in a stock scam, had produced evidence that Kerik failed to report thousands of dollars in gifts he'd received while working for the city. Kerik eventually served nearly four years in prison for tax fraud and other crimes.

Bracewell said Ray initially won respect from the students with his stories of influence as he moved into his daughter's dormitory, but he quickly turned their trust against them by convincing them that they had poisoned him and owed him millions of dollars in compensation.

Then, she said, he used violence and threats and terrified them into following his commands.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Detroit is largest city to challenge 2020 census numbers

**DETROIT** (AP)—Majority-Black Detroit has become the largest U.S. city to challenge its figures from the 2020 census following a national head count in which the U.S. Census Bureau acknowledges that a higher percentage of African Americans were undercounted than last decade, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Leaders of Michigan's largest city, which is more than three-quarters Black, had questioned the results of the 2020 census since last December when they released a report suggesting that more than 8% of the occupied homes in 10 Detroit neighborhoods may have been undercounted. Detroit filed its challenge late last week, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

#### Police: Dallas concert where 1 killed, 15 shot had no permit

**DALLAS** (AP)—An outdoor concert in Dallas where one person was killed and 15 others were wounded by gunfire over the weekend did not have a permit, police said Monday. In addition to the people killed or wounded, a woman suffered a non-gun-related injury, police said. The victims ranged in age from 13 to 29 and were in stable condition, police Chief Eddie Garcia said during a Monday news conference. Garcia said that with "a permit and proper promoter oversight, we can better be prepared for events and crowds." Seven Dallas police officers were approved to work the event off-duty, but that shouldn't have happened since the event didn't have a permit, Garcia said. They had all left by the time the shooting happened, he said.



# Asia

## 10K health workers sent to control Shanghai outbreak



A medical worker collects sample swab sample from residents in a lockdown area in the Jingan district of western Shanghai, Monday, April 4, 2022. AP

**BEIJING (AP)**—China has sent more than 10,000 health workers from around the country to Shanghai, including 2,000 from the military, as it struggles to stamp out a rapidly spreading outbreak in its largest city under its zero-COVID strategy.

Shanghai was conducting a mass testing of its 25 million residents Monday as what was announced as a two-phase lockdown entered its second week. Most of eastern Shanghai, which was supposed to re-open last Friday, remained locked down along with the western half of the city.

While many factories and financial companies have been allowed to keep operating if they isolate their employees, concern was growing about the potential economic impact of an extended lockdown.

in China's financial capital, a major shipping and manufacturing center.

The highly contagious omicron BA.2 form of the virus is testing China's ability to maintain its zero-COVID approach, which aims to stop outbreaks from spreading by isolating everyone who tests positive, whether they have symptoms or not. Shanghai has converted an exhibition hall and other facilities into massive isolation centers where people with mild or no symptoms are housed in a sea of beds separated by temporary partitions.

China on Monday reported more than 13,000 new cases nationwide in the previous 24 hours, of which nearly 12,000 were asymptomatic. About 9,000 of the cases were in Shanghai. The other large

outbreak is in northeastern China's Jilin province, where new cases topped 3,500.

The Shanghai lockdown has sparked numerous complaints, from food shortages to limited staff and facilities at hastily constructed isolation sites. Some people who tested positive have remained at home for extended periods because of a shortage of isolation beds or transportation to take them to a center, the business news publication Caixin said.

Asked about the anxiety of parents separated from their children, Shanghai health commission official Wu Qianyu said Monday that they are required to be kept apart if the child tests positive and the parent tests negative, according to the Paper, an online news outlet.

If both test positive, the parent is allowed to stay with the child at an isolation site for children and receive any treatment there, Wu was quoted as saying at a news conference on Monday.

The China Daily newspaper said nearly 15,000 medical workers from neighboring Jiangsu and Zhejiang provinces left for Shanghai early Monday from their hospitals by bus. More than 2,000 personnel from the army, navy and a joint logistics support force arrived on Sunday, a Chinese military newspaper said.

## Indonesian sentenced to death for raping 13 girls

**BANDUNG, Indonesia (AP)**—An Indonesian high court granted an appeal from prosecutors and sentenced an Islamic boarding school principal to death for raping at least 13 students over five years and impregnating some of them.

Herry Wirawan had been convicted by a three-judge panel at Bandung District Court in February and sentenced to life in prison. He had been accused of raping girls between 11 and 14 years old from 2016 to 2021 at the school, hotels or rented apartments in the West Java city. At least nine babies reportedly were born as a result of the rapes.

His case drew a public outcry as there were several victims over several years. Police said the victims were too fearful to tell anyone.

The Bandung High Court judges in their ruling Monday agreed with prosecutors' appeal for the death penalty and for Wi-

rawan's assets to be seized.

"What he had done had caused trauma and suffering to the victims and their parents," said the ruling the court released on its website Tuesday. "The defendant had tarnished the reputation of Islamic boarding schools."

The lower court had ordered Indonesia's child protection ministry to pay \$23,200 in combined compensation requested by the victims and between \$600 and \$6,000 for medical and psychological treatment for each girl, instead of seizing Wirawan's assets.

But the high court ruled for his assets to be seized, including a foundation he owned, and auctioned to benefit the victims and their children.

The judges also ruled that nine children born to the victims should be handed over to the Children and Women Protection Agency with periodic evaluation "until the victims

are mentally ready to care for their children, and the situation allows for their children to be returned to the victims."

The appeal court's judges denied prosecutors' request for chemical castration, saying someone sentenced to death or life imprisonment may not be subject to other punishments, other than the revocation of some rights.

Wirawan's lawyer, Ira Mambo, said she would advise her client to appeal the sentence to the Supreme Court. They have seven days to do so before the court decision becomes final.

Wirawan pleaded guilty and apologized to his victims and their families during the trial.

West Java police began to investigate the case and arrested Wirawan last May when parents of a victim went to the police after their daughter returned home on a holiday and admitted she had just given birth.

# World

## Russia faces global outrage and accused of war crimes



A dead civilian with his hands tied behind his back lies on the ground in Bucha close to Kyiv, Ukraine, Monday April 4, 2022. AP

**BUCHA, Ukraine (AP)**—Moscow faced global revulsion and accusations of war crimes Monday after the Russian pullout from the outskirts of Kyiv revealed streets, buildings and yards strewn with corpses of what appeared to be civilians, many of them evidently killed at close range.

The grisly images of battered or burned bodies left out in the open or hastily buried led to calls for tougher sanctions against the Kremlin, especially a cutoff of fuel imports from Russia. Germany and France reacted by expelling dozens of Russian diplomats, suggesting they were spies, and U.S. President Joe Biden said Russian leader Vladimir Putin should be tried for war crimes.

"This guy is brutal, and what's happening in Bucha is outrageous," Biden said, referring to the town northwest of the capital that was the scene of some of the horrors.

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)**—Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy will address the U.N. Security Council for the first time Tuesday at a meeting that is certain to focus on what appear to be widespread deliberate killings of civilians by Russian troops.

The dead were discovered after the withdrawal of Russian forces from a town on the outskirts of the capital, Kyiv, and have sparked global outrage and vehement denials from the Russian government that it was responsible.

The United Kingdom, which holds the council presidency this month, announced late Monday that Zelenskyy would speak at the open meeting called for Tuesday to discuss the situation in Ukraine.

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)**—A top official in the global campaign against the use of land mines urged Russia on Monday to stop its troops in Ukraine from laying the weapons that too often kill and maim civilians.

Alicia Arango Olmos, Colombia's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva and this year's president of the state parties to the 1997 convention banning the production and use of land mines, expressed deep concern at media reports that Russia is using land mines in its war in Ukraine.

She pointed to Human Rights Watch, which said on March 29 that Ukrainian explosive ordnance disposal technicians located banned anti-personnel mines in the eastern Kharkiv region a day earlier. The rights group said Russia is known to possess the type of mines that were discovered, but Ukraine doesn't have them.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy left the capital, Kyiv, for his first reported trip since the war began nearly six weeks ago to see for himself what he called the "genocide" and "war crimes" in Bucha.

In his nightly video address, Zelenskyy pledged

that Ukraine would work with the European Union and the International Criminal Court to identify Russian fighters involved in any atrocities.

"The time will come when every Russian will learn the whole truth about who among their fellow citizens killed, who gave orders, who turned a blind eye to the murders," he said.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov dismissed the scenes outside Kyiv as a "stage-managed anti-Russian provocation." Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said the images contained "signs of video forgery and various fakes."

Russia has similarly rejected previous allegations of atrocities as fabrications on Ukraine's part.

Ukrainian officials said the bodies of at least 410 civilians have been found in towns around Kyiv that were recaptured from Russian forces in recent days.

The Ukrainian prosecutor-general's office described one room discovered in Bucha as a "torture chamber." In a statement, it said the bodies of five men with their hands bound were found in the basement of a children's sanatorium where civilians were tortured and killed.

Associated Press journalists saw dozens of bodies in Bucha, including at least 13 in and around a building that local people said Russian troops used as a base. Three other bodies were found in a stairwell, and a group of six were burned together.



# Good Housekeeping

## How to introduce geometry, graphics into your decor

By CATHY HOBBS  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Safe isn't always best when it comes to interior design. In many instances, people are afraid to take the plunge with prints and graphics. But from artwork to accessories and rugs, graphics can often

be the best choice for those looking to infuse a modern edge as well as add color and pattern to a space. Where to start? And what are the best ways to infuse graphics into a space without it feeling overwhelming? Here are some ideas to help get you started.



1. Consider infusing pattern or graphics into your space through the use of artwork.
2. Not ready to commit? Consider using portable decor pieces such as pillows, throws and accessories as a way to infuse graphics and pattern.
3. Layer similar graphic elements in a space, but be careful not to overwhelm.
4. Use a neutral color palette as a foundation. This will allow for the best way to build a color palette.
5. Consider graphics of various styles depending on your decor style.
6. Use graphics and geometry in spaces in which you wish to add a modern element.
7. Infuse graphics through elements such as wallpaper and textiles.
8. Look for timeless patterns and graphics to avoid an overly trendy look and feel.
9. Use graphic and pattern in both small or large spaces. Consider an accent wall or inspirational piece.
10. Opt for graphic prints when looking for an alternative to traditional painted canvases.



(SCOTT GABRIEL MORRIS/  
PROVIDED PHOTO/TNS)  
Identical graphic art conveys  
as a diptych or art in a  
eries when hung side by side  
in this living room.

### NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JOANN DERSON  
(C) 2022 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

- When you make a me-ringue, be sure to spread it all the way to the crust on all sides. If you do, it will not shrink.
  - After your dishwasher has run its course, open up the door and let the dishes air dry. On cold days, there's the added bonus of humidifying the house with the steam that escapes.
  - Research says that the best time of day to exercise is in the morning, but the truth is that the best time for YOU to exercise is when you will go through with it. So, try out different times of the day, and when you find one that fits, schedule it in your daily planner and block the time out at least three times per week.
  - Making your own flavored yogurt is cheap and much better for you. You can avoid a lot of added sugar. Start with plain, unflavored yogurt and add: pureed fruits, toasted oats, honey, vanilla or almond extract, or plumped-up raisins (add enough hot water to cover a tablespoon of raisins and let sit for a minute or two). Yummy.
  - "If you stick the end of your celery stalks in a cup of water and rocks (or in some very damp dirt), they will begin to regrow. This is a great way to have a never-ending supply of celery. You also can regrow scallions from the root end." -- Y.L.J. in Missouri
  - Metal shower hooks can be used in the sewing basket to hold safety pins. They can be used in a jewelry box to corral costume rings as well.
- Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

By PAUL F. P. POGUE  
ASK ANGI

While the hot summer sun may find you retreating to the shade and slathering on the SPF, you can put those intense rays to work to provide clean energy for your home. The solar panels you see today are leaps ahead of those installed at solar power's advent. It's no longer futuristic or reserved for the highest-end homes. The U.S. Energy Information Administration says that 3% of power in the nation comes from solar, and they expect that to reach 14% by 2035. Solar energy is accessible, and you can install it right away. Here's what you need to know. Your energy needs will determine the size and cost of your solar panel installation. You can install a system that handles all your electrical needs and then some, or you can go for a smaller and less expensive array that partially covers your energy drain and relies on the grid for the rest. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the average home uses about 893 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month, or 30 kWh per day. Check your electric bill for your exact number, as you'll need it when you talk to your professional installer. A small system that generates about 5 kilowatts can

## Ask Angi: Is solar power right for me?



(DREAMSTIME/TNS)

The size of your solar installation will be dictated by your power needs.

ease the energy drain on your power system and your wallet by providing at least half the energy you need. It'll cost between \$12,500 and \$17,500. A 10-kilowatt installation will generate enough power for the average home. It typically costs between \$25,000 and \$35,000 and takes up a significant amount of space on your roof. While it may seem like a significant investment, solar power is likely to save you up to \$20,000 over 20 years. In many cases, the systems pay for themselves over time. areas. If you generate more electricity than you use, it delivers energy back to the system. Often, this results in a credit on your electrical bill, which is known as "net metering." Fun fact: You can watch your meter run backward when this happens. Net metering not only lowers your bills but helps your neighbors by easing the strain on the power grid. When everyone has their ACs running at max, any house delivering energy back to the grid takes the area one more step back from a potential blackout.

**What happens with excess energy**  
Here's a big bonus of solar power: Your home is still connected to the overall power grid in most

**What to ask contractors**  
Solar energy contractors must juggle many factors while installing your panels, including

your local grid, specific energy needs, and the available sunlight around your home. This is a big job, so solicit multiple bids and compare them. Here are some questions to ask when hiring. ■ How will you size my system, and what factors will you consider? ■ What warranty do you offer? (Between five and 10 years is a typical industry standard.) ■ Will you inspect my roof in person before making a bid? ■ How many installations have you done?

**Tax benefits**  
Solar panels can pay for themselves by more than just giving energy back. Plus, you can claim a federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC) when installing residential solar. And it's a generous credit—if you get the work done in time. Here's a look at what you can claim. ■ Systems installed in 2022: 26% ■ Systems installed in 2023: 22% ■ 2024 and later: credit expires

In many cases, you can also claim benefits or incentives from your state or municipal government, as well as utility companies. Your solar pro should be able to tell you all the options available to you.



# Life & Style

## Library study finds ‘challenged’ books soared in 2021

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Deborah Caldwell-Stone, director of the American Library Association’s Office for Intellectual Freedom, has never been so busy.

“A year ago, we might have been receiving one, maybe two reports a day about a book being challenged at a library. And usually those calls would be for guidance on how to handle a challenge or for materials that support the value of the work being challenged,” Caldwell-Stone told The Associated Press. “Now, we’re getting three, four, five reports a day, many in need of support and some in need of a great deal of support.”

“We’re on the phone constantly,” she added.

Accounts of book bannings and attempted book bannings, along with threats against librarians, have soared over the past year and the ALA has included some numbers in its annual State of America’s Libraries Report, released Monday. The



Amanda Darrow, director of youth, family and education programs at the Utah Pride Center, poses with books on Dec. 16, 2021, that have been the subject of complaints from parents in Salt Lake City.

association found 729 challenges—affecting nearly 1,600 books—at public schools and libraries in 2021, more than double 2020’s figures and the

highest since the ALA began compiling challenges more than 20 years ago.

The actual total for last year is likely much higher—the ALA

collects data through media accounts and through cases it learns about from librarians and educators and other community members. Books preemptively

pulled by librarians—out of fear of community protest or concern for their jobs—and challenges never reported by libraries are not included.

The number could well grow again in 2022, Caldwell-Stone said, as conservative-led school boards and legislatures enact more restrictions. Last week, the Georgia legislature passed a bill that would accelerate the process for removing books

seen as “harmful to minors.”

“Nothing would surprise me,” Caldwell-Stone says.

The two most challenged books on the ALA’s top 10 list have been in the news often: Maia Kobabe’s graphic memoir about sexual identity, “Gender Queer,” and Jonathan Evison’s “Lawn Boy,” a coming-of-age novel narrated by a young gay man. Both have been singled out by Republican officials.

## June Brown, ‘EastEnders’ icon Dot Cotton, dies at 95

**LONDON (AP)**—June Brown, who played the chain-smoking Cockney matriarch Dot Cotton on the British soap opera “EastEnders” for 35 years, has died. She was 95.

The BBC, which produces the show, announced Brown’s death on Monday. It said she died at her home outside London on Sunday with her family by her side.

“EastEnders” producers said Brown appeared in 2,884 episodes of the soap and “created one of the most iconic characters in Dot Cotton, not just in soap but in British television.”

Born in 1927, Brown served in the Women’s Royal Naval Service towards the end of World War II before training

at the Old Vic Theatre School. She played myriad stage parts with the Royal Shakespeare Company and other troupes, and had many film and TV roles before being cast in “EastEnders,” a soap opera chronicling life in the fictional working-class London neighborhood of Walford.

Intended as a southern rival to the northern England-set soap opera “Coronation Street,” the show launched in 1985 and soon became a ratings hit. Brown created one of its most popular characters in Cotton, a devout Christian and incorrigible gossip who worked in the local laundromat and assessed her neighbors with a sharp eye and equally sharp tongue.



Actress June Brown poses for a photo, in this Feb. 25, 1997 photo.

## Russian, Ukrainian ballet stars to dance together in Naples

**NAPLES, Italy (AP)**—A Ukrainian ballerina who fled the war in her homeland and a Russian ballerina who quit the Bolshoi Ballet over the Russian invasion rehearsed on a stage in Naples ahead of a sold-out benefit performance Monday night to raise funds for the Red Cross and champion the cause of peace in Ukraine.

Naples’ San Carlo Theater billed the event “Stand with Ukraine—Ballet for Peace.”

Despite that description, the prospect of Russian dancers dancing on the same stage with Ukrainians reportedly angered Ukraine’s consul in Naples. The Italian daily La Repubblica quoted the consul

as telling fellow Ukrainians in the southern Italian city to shun the performance.

Among the stars in the event is prima ballerina Olga Smirnova, who quit the Bolshoi last month and is now dancing with the Dutch National Ballet. Another headliner is Anastasia Gurskaya, a top ballerina in Kyiv’s Opera, who fled the fighting in Ukraine.

“I think it’s important in this situation, in this time, to be together on the stage. To do little things, the smallest things, what we can do for Ukraine,” Smirnova told reporters in the theater ahead of the final rehearsal. “This is the main goal for all of us. That’s why we are here, that’s why we are dancing tonight.”

ing tonight.”

Fellow prima ballerina Gurskaya said her performance is one way to help Ukraine.

“My life is upside down now. And I’ve never been in Italy in this city, and I’ve never danced with stars like today, with world ballet stars, and I am so excited about it. And I don’t know why this happened to me,” the Ukrainian dancer told The Associated Press. “I am really happy I am here and I can help and support my country with my dancing today.”

The theater’s artistic director, Alessio Carbone, hailed Smirnova’s participation.

“Olga is a very strong image for us, because obviously

she was the first dancer who publicly opposed the (Putin) regime. So to have her with us tonight is an inspiration of courage,” Carbone said.

No one responded to telephone calls Monday at Ukraine’s consulate in Naples. Calls to the mayor’s press office went unanswered.

About a dozen protesters, some holding Ukrainian flags, demonstrated outside the theater before the event to show discontent over the participation of Russian dancers.

Before the rehearsal, one of the Ukrainian dancers spoke about a small town near Kyiv where the chilling discoveries of civilian bodies have emerged.

## Friend traumatized after woman’s shocking murder

**DEAR ABBY:** A dear friend I have known since we were children was murdered. She was lovely in every way, and I am bereft. I cannot process my grief over her untimely passing because it was accompanied by such trauma.

Images of her murder flash through my mind, especially at night while I’m trying to go to sleep. They also wake me up in the morning. Talking about it makes it worse because it revives the horror, and also because people want to know details as though it is just a story. I feel it is disrespectful to her memory and my affection for her to reduce it to that.

I’m usually a resourceful person, but I have no road map for this. It is of considerable relief that her killer was found, but the details revealed by the media have added to my trauma. I have had friends die at even younger ages from other causes, but not this. Some of our mutual friends are in the same boat as I am, so any guidance you can provide would be appreciated.

**BESIDE MYSELF IN ILLINOIS**

**DEAR BESIDE MYSELF:** I am so sorry for your friend’s untimely and tragic death. Clearly, it was shocking and traumatic for everyone she left behind. You are not obligated to satisfy the curiosity of anyone about the “details.” (There is no limit to the amount of curiosity something like this can generate.) All you have to say is you do not wish to discuss it. Period!

Although you didn’t mention how long it has been since you lost your friend, because it is causing you to have nightmares, please discuss this with a licensed mental health professional. It may be painful, but it’s the most effective way to work through this.

◆◆◆◆

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been dating my partner, “Lizzie,” for five years. We are both divorced and have created a blended family of six children (four are hers; two are mine). I’m within 10 years of retirement and have a decent net worth. Unfortunately, Lizzie has no savings and is unemployed.

During our time together, I have paid for everything, which I’m OK with. I previously went through a nasty, contentious divorce. It was financially devastating. My ex still brings me back to court every year in an attempt to increase her support, which is a painful process.

Lizzie would like us to get married, primarily for financial

## DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



stability. I am resistant because I do not want the financial exposure of another divorce. However, this situation creates an inequality in our relationship. Can I address her concern without marrying her, or are we doomed?

**SCARED OF COURT IN CALIFORNIA**

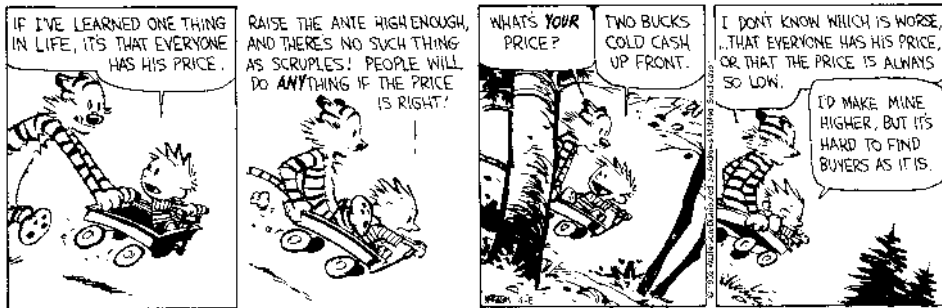
**DEAR SCARED:** This is a question you should address with your attorney. There are ways you can ensure that Lizzie will be taken care of in the event of your death or incapacity, but they will require documentation. Your attorney can — and should — guide you in regard to this.



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



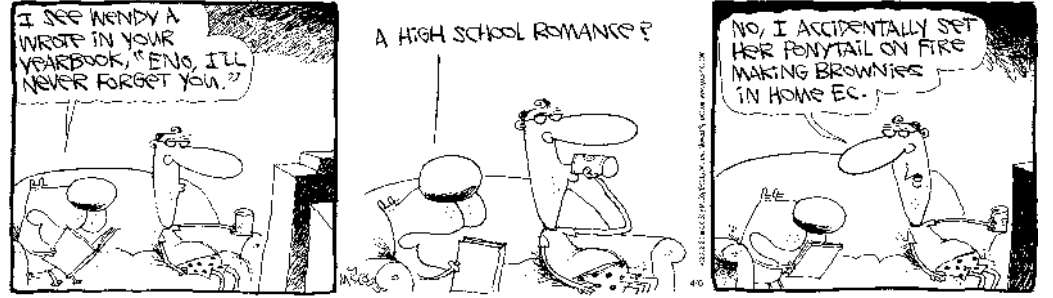
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Gush  
5 "Say what?"  
8 Hoodlum  
12 Saintly ring  
13 Simile part  
14 Plotting  
15 Wise saying  
17 Teensy bit  
18 Street urchins  
19 Sundance entrants  
21 LAX postings  
24 "The Office" character  
25 Blender sound  
28 Singer Paul  
30 "Big Blue"  
33 Succor  
34 Reside  
35 Lanka lead-in  
36 Away from NNW  
37 Concerning  
38 Urban haze

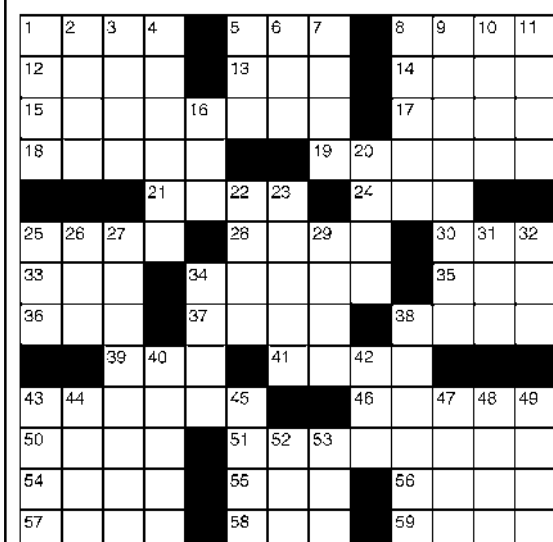
**DOWN**

1 "Pygmalion" writer  
2 Haydn nickname  
3 K thru 12 timer the dummy  
4 Stereo component  
5 "Bali —"  
6 Aircraft carrier letters  
7 Soccer star Mia  
8 Tropical fruit  
9 "Glass half-full" outlook  
10 Okla-homa tribe  
11 Aliases

**16** Letters after Q  
**20** October birthstone  
**22** Sunup  
**23** Mor-timer the dummy  
**25** Existed  
**26** — Royal Highness  
**27** Utopian's vision  
**29** Swiss artist Paul  
**31** Buddy  
**32** "Top Gun" target  
**34** Conked out  
**38** Takes a whiff of  
**40** Trousers  
**42** Bird (Pref.)  
**43** Emailed  
**44** Bailiwick  
**45** Agile  
**47** Fibs  
**48** Future atty.'s exam  
**49** Quantities (Abbr.)  
**52** "Caught ya!"  
**53** Coquet-ish

**Solution time: 23 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 4-6**



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Eliza Coupe, 41; Candace Cameron Bure, 46; Zach Braff, 47; Paul Rudd, 53.

**Happy Birthday:** Put a to-do list together and map out a plan that will help you fulfill your wish list. Don't fold under pressure or let someone talk you into doing things that don't complement your agenda. Speak your mind, stay on course and protect what means the most to you. Change only what's necessary. Avoid overreaction and indulgence. Your numbers are 2, 10, 16, 28, 31, 36, 45.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Information will be incomplete. Question anything that causes uncertainty or puts you in a vulnerable position. Keep your plans simple, regardless of what others do or say. Counter instability with reason, discipline and hard work. Distance yourself from strict people. \*\*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Overreacting will lead to trouble. Keep life simple, live within your means and do your best to adjust to whatever you encounter. Getting along with people who have something to contribute and putting in place a team that shows promise are encouraged. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Look at the logistics before entering an agreement. Too much wiggle room can lead to dangerous effects. Nothing in life is free; be prepared to work hard to reach your goal. Spend more time honing your skills and protecting your reputation. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Don't mix business with pleasure. Keep your personal thoughts and life to yourself. Ru-

mors will spread quickly if you are too trusting or get involved in gossip. Pay more attention to self-improvement and meaningful relationships. Learn from your mistakes. \*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Put more time and thought into the conversations you have with others. Focus on truth, offer facts and look at partnerships closely before getting involved. Keeping things the same is favored. Don't try to fix something that isn't broken. \*\*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Concentrate on making a difference. Working alongside your peers will help you understand what you can do to improve relationships. Refuse to let anyone coax you into unbridled behavior. Complying to fit in will lead to regret. \*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Be part of the solution. Gather information, share your thoughts and take the initiative to get things done. How you treat others will influence the outcome. Don't stoke the fire when it comes to emotional matters. Stay calm, keep the peace. \*\*\*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Problems with people in your life will surface if you are too possessive or protective. If you love someone, give them the freedom to figure things out for themselves. Stay in the background and offer quiet support. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Push your way forward. Refuse to let anyone stand in your way or ruin your plans. A problem at home will escalate if you or someone else hides the truth or causes emotional havoc. Choose intelligence over emotional ma-

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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nipulation. \*\*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Change begins with you and the way you live. Cut corners instead of spending more money. Consider how you can use your assets to lower your liabilities. Listen to suggestions, but in the end, do what makes you feel comfortable. \*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Fix up your space. Discuss your plans with anyone affected by the changes you plan to make. The input you receive will make getting things done without interference easier. Lower your overhead, and you'll have more cash available for other pursuits. \*\*\*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** An emotional situation will escalate. Listen carefully, verify facts and stick to a plan you know you can achieve. Taking on too much or being self-indulgent will lead to loss. Take responsibility for your actions, and adhere to the truth. \*\*

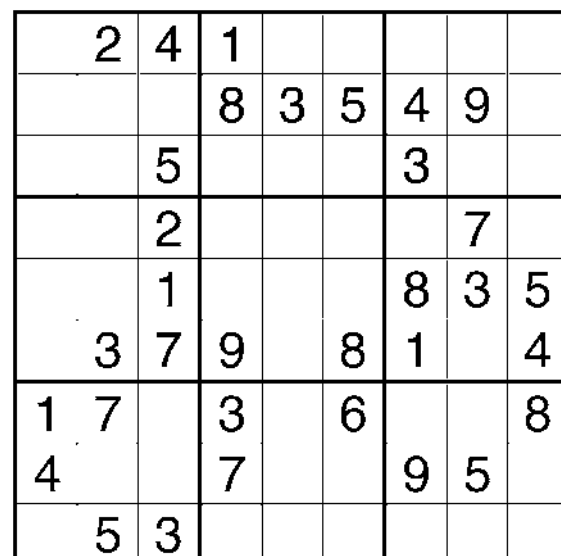
**Birthday Baby:** You are outgoing, entertaining and pioneering. You are sensitive and generous.

☺ Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☺☺ You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☺☺☺ Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☺☺☺☺ Aim high; start new projects. ☺☺☺☺☺ Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



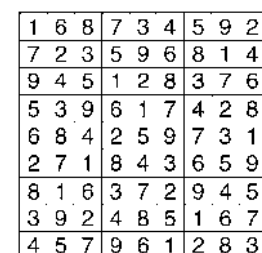
Difficulty Level ★★ ★

4/06

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

'NO TIME TO DIE' (FILM)

Solution: 9 letters



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4/6

Action, Adventure, Attack, Blofeld, Cal, Capture, Childhood, Clue, Daniel Craig, Defy, Double Agent, Dragon, Escape, Felix, Fienres, Ignition, James Bond, Lake, Lashana Lynch, Lea Seydoux, Logan, Lyutsifer, Malek, Murder, Nomi, Paloma, Plane, Primo, Pursuer, Safin, Scientist, Service, Shooting, Sign, Silos, Spy, Teammate, Theme, Trail, Virus

Yesterday's Answer: Shoes

Treasures 27, 28, 31 and 33 through 48 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.



# Jayhawks rally, rock North Carolina, 72-69, to win title

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—Best. Comeback. Ever. Sounds pretty good next to Rock Chalk, Jayhawk.

What looked like a lost cause turned into one of the sweetest wins ever for Kansas.

The Jayhawks brought their fourth NCAA title back to Allen Fieldhouse on Monday thanks to a second-half flurry that erased a 16-point deficit and eventually overcame North Carolina 72-69 in an epic battle of power programs.

It was the largest comeback in national championship history, surpassing the 1963 title game when Loyola overcame a 15-point deficit to beat Cincinnati at the buzzer, 60-58.

"We just locked in as a family, as a team, and that's what we do," said Kansas big man David McCormack, after making last two baskets of the game. "We overcome the odds. We overcome adversity. We're just built for this."

McCormack scored the go-ahead bucket from close range with 1:21 left, then another at the 22-second mark to put the Jayhawks ahead by three.

North Carolina missed its final four shots, including Caleb Love's desperation 3 at the buzzer. His heave came up short after officials ruled that Kansas guard Dajuan Harris Jr., stepped out

on an inbounds pass with 4.3 seconds left.

The Tar Heels went scoreless over the final 1:41. They couldn't find an answer for KU over the final 20 minutes.

"They were penetrating and doing whatever they wanted," Love said.

After McCormack's go-ahead bucket, Love drove to the basket but his shot got blocked. North Carolina grabbed an offensive rebound and got the ball to Armando Bacot under the bucket.

But he lost his footing and turned it over, then limped off the court, unable to return.

"I thought I really got the angle that I wanted and then I just rolled my ankle," Bacot said.

That put Brady Manek, not as good a defender, on McCormack, and the Kansas big man backed in Manek for the shot that put the Jayhawks ahead by three.

"When we had to have a basket, we went to Big Dave, and he delivered," said Kansas coach Bill Self, who has two of the program's four championships.

McCormack and Jalen Wilson led KU with 15 points each. Christian Braun scored 10 of his 12 in the second half and transfer Remy Martin had 11 of his 14 over the final 20 minutes. The Jayhawks outscored Carolina 47-29 in the second half.



North Carolina guard R.J. Davis (4) shoots against Kansas forward Jalen Wilson (10) during the first half of a college basketball game in the finals of the Men's Final Four NCAA tournament, Monday, April 4, 2022, in New Orleans.

"When we saw our own blood, we didn't panic and we came out the second half coming in hot," Self said. "I was thinking at the 14-minute mark, 'There's no way these guys can play for 20 minutes defense like this,' but they did."

The Tar Heels shot 11 for 40 in the second half.

But it was Kansas that couldn't buy a basket late in the first half, as Carolina ran over and around the Jayhawks during a 16-0 run. The Tar Heels led 40-25 at the break. Then, top-seeded KU (34-6) started trapping and pressing more, moving

the ball around on offense, and Carolina started getting a taste of what everyone else has this season: You can't stop 'em all.

The Jayhawks went on a 31-10 run to take a six-point lead at the 10-minute mark and set up a fantastic finish.

Bacot had 15 points and 15 rebounds to become the first player to record double-doubles in all six tournament games. He finished the season with 31 double-doubles, but it was not enough. Carolina was trying to join 1985 Villanova as only the second 8 seed to win March Madness.

Instead, the Tar Heels (29-

10) fell one win short and dropped to 6-6 all-time in title games. This was their record 21st — and possibly most unlikely — trip to the Final Four. They made it to the final by beating Duke in a back-and-forth thriller and sending Blue Devils coach Mike Krzyzewski into retirement.

"I can't remember a time in my life where I should be disappointed," said rookie UNC coach Hubert Davis, who was trying to become the first person to lead a team to a title in his first full year as head coach. "But I am filled with so much pride."

A great season — but

the banner will hang in Lawrence.

And McCormack, thanks to his late-game heroics, will go down in KU lore, along with Mario Chalmers (2008), Danny Manning (and the miracles in 1988) and the rest of the Kansas greats.

This title was three years in the making. KU was 28-3 and the odds-on favorite heading into March of 2020. Then, the COVID-19 pandemic hit and stopped both the Jayhawks, and the season, in their tracks.

Seven players from that roster are on this one, as well. In some of their minds there were no "what-might-have-beens" about 2020 — they knew they would have won it. They won this one instead, and showed, once again, it's never good to count them out.

While this wasn't quite the 47-15 beatdown they put on Miami over the final 20 minutes in the Elite Eight, it was still darn impressive given the circumstances.

Ochai Agbaji, who was named the Final Four's most outstanding player, finished with 12 points and found breathing room after UNC's lockdown guard, Leaky Black, got his fourth foul 6 minutes into the second half.

"This is a special group of guys," Agbaji said. "We're going down in history. All I got to say is, 'Rock Chalk, baby.'"

## Jayhawks' Bill Self masterminds epic championship comeback

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—In a national championship game nobody at Kansas will soon forget, Bill Self went from the Hall of Fame coach who far too often failed on the big stage to the brilliant mastermind of the biggest comeback in NCAA title-game history.

Blitzed by North Carolina for most of the first 20 minutes Monday night, and after digging a seemingly insurmountable 40-25 deficit, the senior-heavy Jayhawks rallied for a 72-69 victory over the Tar Heels inside the boisterous Superdome to raise another long-awaited banner to the rafters of historic Allen Fieldhouse.

"I think when you're the all-time winningest program — just by a small margin — and when the inventor of the game was your first coach, and the likes of Adolph Rupp comes from Kansas and Dean Smith comes from Kansas and Wilt Chamberlain comes from Kansas, the expectations are where being good is OK but it's not enough," Self said.

"Nobody's ever put pressure on me that we've got to

win another one," he added, "but I think I put pressure on myself knowing that this place deserves more than what we have won."

The Jayhawks, who trailed the Tar Heels by 16 late in the first half Monday night, eclipsed Loyola of Chicago's 15-point comeback to beat Cincinnati in overtime in 1963 for the biggest in title game history. They also set a record by overcoming the biggest halftime deficit in a Final Four game.

"With the group of guys as experienced as this and been around and know each other so well, it's kind of hard to see us get rattled. And I think we bounced back at halftime," Kansas forward Mitch Lightfoot said. "Coach had a great message for us, and he challenged us to be better, and to have more pride. And we did that."

David McCormack finished with 15 points and 10 rebounds, dueling in the paint all night with ailing Carolina big man Armando Bacot. Remy Martin poured in 11 of his 14 points after the break, while Jalen Wilson had 15

points — including a couple of big baskets early in the second half, when the Jayhawks managed to turn a blowout into a ballgame.

"Coach, he obviously challenged us and was amped," said the Jayhawks' Ochai Agbaji, "but it was a matter of us playing our game and executing in the second half and taking away what they were getting at in the first half."

It's the fourth title for the Jayhawks and the second for Self, who claimed his first when another bunch of comeback kids rallied to beat Memphis in overtime in 2008. And this one came on the same Superdome floor where Kentucky denied him in the finals a decade ago, one of the many heartbreaks that Self and his team have experienced over the years.

There was the 2010 team that spent much of the season ranked No. 1 but lost in the second round of the tournament, and the following year the Jayhawks didn't lose until late January but were dumped by VCU in the Elite Eight.

There was also the 2013

overtime loss to Michigan in the Sweet 16, and back-to-back years in which Kansas failed to make it out of the tournament's opening weekend. More recently, there was the 2018 Final Four blowout by Villanova — which Kansas avenged Saturday night — and second-round exits in each of the previous two NCAA Tournaments.

The Tar Heels were poised to add to the heartache on Monday night.

They dominated the offensive glass in the first half, and scored second-chance baskets nearly at will, while Kansas went through long periods of offensive ineptitude. Martin was 1 of 5 from the field, his only make a clanked 3 off the backboard, and Wilson and Christian Braun were a combined 2 for 13 from the floor.

At halftime, Self referenced the Jayhawks' 2008 national championship comeback with his team, asking if they'd rather be down by nine with 2 minutes left — as they were that night — or down by 15 with 20 minutes still to play.

It took about 10 minutes to

learn their answer.

The trio of Braun, McCormack and Wilson went to work to start the second half, wiping out North Carolina's hard-earned lead and finally pulling even when Agbaji — the Final Four MVP — converted a three-point play with 10:53 to go.

It was a back-and-forth affair until McCormack gathered his own rebound and scored with 1:16 left. Bacot turned the ball over at the other end when his sprained ankle from the semifinals against Duke finally gave out. Then, McCormack added another basket with 22.3 seconds left to give the Jayhawks some breathing room.

"Game's on the line," McCormack said. "Coach talks about keeping the ball high going right back up. That's what was going through my mind. We work on tough shots every day. I work on both hands, get a quick basket, get back on defense."

Caleb Love and Puff Johnson both missed tying 3-point tries, then North Carolina got one last chance when Dajuan

Harris turned the ball over with 4.3 seconds to go. The Tar Heels again got the ball to Love, the hero of their dramatic win over the Blue Devils, but his shot missed as the clock expired and confetti began to fall from the sky.

The comeback broke the record for the largest halftime deficit overcome in a championship game, set by Kentucky in 1998, when it rallied from down by 10 to beat Utah. It also broke the record for any Final Four halftime comeback of 11, set by Duke's rally past Maryland in 2001 and Temple, when it beat Kansas State in the 1958 third-place game.

Perhaps more importantly, it wiped away any argument that Self will go down as one of the game's greatest coaches.

"That wasn't on my mind," Self said, "but I do feel as many good teams we've had over time, we could have had more than one, so even though — like I said earlier — I never felt pressure from anybody that we had to do this, but I knew with what we have had that we could have very easily done more. So I actually think it means a lot to me."



# Masters notebook: Tiger's presence, shoes cause a ruckus



**AUGUSTA, Ga.** (AP)—Tiger Woods is wearing Nike apparel this week, as always.

Except the shoes.

Such is the power of Woods: Not only is his mere presence at Augusta National this week a huge story — whether he decides to play in the Masters — but he's also created a huge side story by showing up for practice rounds Sunday and Monday wearing Foot-Joy shoes.

Woods hasn't explained the change yet; he's scheduled to address reporters Tuesday. It would make sense if the change was related to what are likely different physical needs now that he's trying to play on a right leg that was badly damaged in a car crash last year.

A statement released by Nike seemed to indicate that was the case: "Like golf fans around the world, we are delighted to see Tiger back on the course. He is an incredible athlete, and it is phenomenal to see him returning to the game at this level. His story continues to transcend sport and inspire us all. As he continues his return, we will work with him to meet his new needs."

Everything else about Woods' on-course ensembles has been as expected: His cap still bears the distinctive "TW" logo that has been his personal Nike branding for years, his short-sleeve shirts had the iconic Nike swoosh on the left side of the chest. Technically, Nike was on his feet, too — when counting the socks.

Woods wore Nike shoes when the world most recently saw him play, back in December at the PNC Challenge, a 36-hole scramble on a flat Florida course where he and his son Charlie finished second to John Daly and his son. Woods was allowed to use a cart in that event. The demands of playing the Masters simply wouldn't even compare, with the steep slopes and length of Augusta National serving as one of the tougher walks in golf.



Tiger Woods pauses while getting in some work chipping at the practice range before his practice round for the Masters at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga., Monday, April 4, 2022.

Woods has been an endorser of Nike since 1996.

## THE AMATEURS

There are six amateurs in the Masters this year, and being here is obviously of massive significance to all of them.

For Keita Nakajima, it may mean a bit more — because he knows what the Masters means in his homeland, especially now that one of their own is the defending champion.

Nakajima is from Japan, as is 2021 Masters winner Hideki Matsuyama — the first Japanese man to win a major. Nakajima gets to play this year after winning last year's Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship in Dubai.

"I have been watching Masters many times on TV, and it's still like a dream," Nakajima said. "It's pretty much surreal. And I would like to do my best for the fans and feel my joy

and do my best for this week."

He shared the stage for a news conference Monday with fellow amateur Aaron Jarvis, who is making his Masters debut after winning the Latin America Amateur Championship in the Dominican Republic in January.

Jarvis is from the Cayman Islands, home to about 70,000 people. He's the first player from that tiny country to make it to the Masters, and he's already had a pinch-me moment — getting turned down by Tiger Woods.

Jarvis was playing with U.S. Amateur champion James Piot on Sunday when they saw Woods playing and asked to join up. The answer wasn't the one they wanted.

"You know, there's no better 'no' from — or better rejection — than from Tiger Woods, right?" Jarvis said. "So, I thought would I give it

a shot. I ran up to him and ran through the woods and asked, 'Mr. Woods, are you playing by yourself or can we join?'"

Woods said he was preferring to play alone.

When he finished his round, Woods and caddy Joe LaCava chatted with Jarvis for about 10 minutes.

"It was just incredible," Jarvis said.

Piot already has a memory like few others at Augusta National: He basically got to play an empty course Saturday. He went out after the Augusta National Women's Amateur ended and hardly saw another soul.

"Just me and my caddy," Piot said. "Nobody else, no members around the course. It was the craziest thing in the world having Augusta National to yourself. For a college guy, you really appreciate it. I mean, being an amateur and

being able to be out at Augusta National alone, it was a memory I'll never forget.

The other amateurs in the field are U.S. Amateur runner-up Austin Greaser, British Amateur champion Laird Shepherd and U.S. Mid-Amateur champion Stewart Hagestad.

It's the second time in the Masters for Hagestad, a career amateur who turns 31 on Sunday. He tied for 36th and was low amateur in 2017 at the Masters.

"Not to throw all the adages at you, but it's truly an honor

and a privilege to be here," Hagestad said. "No, there's been a few times where I've been in tears, both privately and publicly."

## WEATHER WOES

Forecasters say more than an inch of rain could fall during a series of storms Tuesday. And that means the course might soften up — at least for a little while.

"It's firm," Webb Simpson said Monday. "The ball is running in the fairway as much as I've seen in a few years. Greens are already really firm, getting a little brown spots, which we love, but I think they know rain's coming (Tuesday). With the wind coming, it seems like the course will dry out pretty quickly again, but all in all, it's in really good shape."

Once the storms move on, temperatures might fall. The forecast shows overnight lows toward the end of the week could reach the low 40s, which would be significantly below normal for this time of year.

## HOME-FIELD EDGE

The Masters draws patrons from everywhere, but locals may have some clear rooting interests with seven former Georgia Bulldogs in the field.

The list: Russell Henley, Hudson Swafford, Sepp Straka, Kevin Kisner, Harris English, Brian Harman and Bubba Watson.

And yes, they were hearing "Go Dawgs" on Monday.

"When I was getting recruited, the negative recruiting against Georgia is that we couldn't put guys on tour," Harman said. "That was the pitch from the other schools. ... It's nice that we've sort of changed that narrative."

## Cavs coach Bickerstaff fined \$15,000 by NBA for ripping refs

**CLEVELAND** (AP)—Cleveland Cavaliers coach J.B. Bickerstaff was fined \$15,000 by the NBA for criticizing the officials following Sunday night's loss to the Philadelphia 76ers.

Upset by inconsistency in calls and the Sixers getting 42 free throws, Bickerstaff said the game "was taken" from the Cavs, who are trying to hold onto the No. 7 play-in spot with a week left in the regular season.

Bickerstaff also was upset that a foul wasn't called on Sixers star Joel Embiid in the closing seconds of Philadelphia's 112-108 win. Cavs guard Darius Garland was bumped on a layup with the Cavs down by a point.

On the two-minute report released Monday, the league

agreed with Bickerstaff and said Embiid should have been called for a foul.

However, Bickerstaff was most bothered by the free-throw discrepancy as the Sixers attempted 42 free throws to 31 for the Cavs. Embiid went to the line 21 times, and All-Star forward James Harden attempted 12.

"We deserved to win that game. That game was taken from us. We deserved to win it," Bickerstaff said Sunday. "We did a great job defensively, of making their two best players have a difficult time from the field."

"But one thing you can't defend is the free-throw line. And that's absurd. That's absurd. Our guys deserve way better than what they got tonight."

The Cavs are at Orlando on Tuesday night.

## Santana, Rodríguez, Rondón suspended for positive drug tests

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Outfielder/first baseman Danny Santana, pitcher Richard Rodríguez and infielder José Rondón were suspended for 80 games each Monday in the first discipline since the major league drug testing program resumed March 11 following a 99-day suspension during the lockout.

The three, all free agents, tested positive for the performance-enhancing substance Boldenone, the commissioner's office said Monday.

The tests resulted from urine samples taken before

the lockout started Dec. 2, but MLB concluded it could not announce discipline during the lockout, a person familiar with the testing program said, speaking on condition of anonymity because that detail was not announced.

Santana, 31, is an eight-year major league veteran who hit .181 with five homers and 14 RBIs in 38 games for the Boston Red Sox last season. He has a .255 career average with 47 homers and 202 RBIs for Minnesota (2014-17), Atlanta (2017-18), Texas (2019-20)

and Boston.

Rodríguez, a 32-year-old right-hander, was acquired by Atlanta from Pittsburgh on July 30 and went 1-2 with a 3.12 ERA in 27 relief appearances for the Braves but did not appear on a postseason roster for the World Series champions. He was 5-4 with a 2.94 ERA in 64 relief outings last year and has a 16-14 career record with a 3.28 ERA and 19 saves for Baltimore (2017), Pittsburgh (2018-21) and Atlanta.

Rondón, 28, hit .263 with three homers and nine RBIs

in 63 games for St. Louis last season. He has a .216 average with 12 homers and 33 RBIs in four seasons with San Diego (2016), the Chicago White Sox (2018-19), Baltimore (2019) and St. Louis.

These were the first suspensions under the major league drug program since Oakland outfielder Ramón Laureano was disciplined last Aug. 6, an 80-game penalty that has 27 games left to be served this season. There have been 20 suspensions this year under the minor league drug program.



# 307 registered for Saipan Marathon 2022

Three hundred seven runners have registered for Saipan Marathon 2022 half-marathon, 10K, and 5K on Saturday, April 9, in The Marianas.

Registrants include 286 from The Marianas, 15 from the U.S.A., four from Guam, and two from Korea. The breakdown by race are 85 individuals for the half-marathon, 117 for the 10K, and 105 for the 5K. The race is expected to have a young turnout, with ages 13-17 being the largest age category.

The annual race is organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority in partnership with Northern Marianas Athletics.



“As our destination slowly recovers from the pandemic, we are happy to bring back Saipan Marathon this weekend, especially for our local runners,” said MVA managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo. “We invite the community to join us in cheering on our runners early in the morning, and we ask everyone help make it a safe race by driving carefully and tying up their dogs along the race route. We’re looking forward to a beautiful day and fun race for all!”

The race follows some of Saipan’s most scenic roadways, starting and ending at

Micro Beach and American Memorial Park and providing stunning views of the azure blue lagoon along the Beach Road. Race packet pick-up will be available on Friday, April 8, from 5pm to 6:30pm at the American Memorial Park amphitheater. Start time on April 9 is 5:45am for the half-marathon, 6am for the 10K, and 6:10am for the 5K.

“NMA extends its sincere thank you to MVA for the partnership to this year’s Saipan Marathon,” said NMA president Ray Tebuteb. “Our generous sponsors are certainly the major key players to the success of this significant social occasion. We encourage our friends and



MVA

Runners join Saipan Marathon 2019 in March 2019 in The Marianas. Saipan Marathon 2022 will feature a half-marathon, 10K, and 5K on April 9, 2022.

## UOG Baseball returns to the Guam Major League

On Thursday night at the Paseo Stadium, another landmark for Triton Baseball will pass as the University of Guam baseball team returns to the Guam Major League against the CP Amigos in the opening game for UOG in the spring/summer 2022 GML season.

The Tritons last played in the GML back in 2006 and won a Guam Major League Championship in 2003.

The program shook off the dust of 16 years and returned to Paseo Stadium about a month ago when they hosted their own Triton Invitational Baseball Tournament with the Dodgers, Amigos, and Guam Junior National Team involved in a two weekend tournament that the Dodgers won with a 6-0 record. The Tritons were only 1-4 in the tournament but had two one games against the Dodgers and the Junior National Team that showed the potential was there and the program may have some life yet again to return to the Guam Major League and compete.

UOG coach Roke Alcantara Jr. has deep roots in baseball on the island and while the Tritons have a small roster now, he plans to recruit more players to the UOG campus and form

the nucleus of another baseball powerhouse in the near future.

The Tritons face an 11-game regular season in the GML that will take the UOG team into the summer time and if the squad can make the playoffs, the team may go from June to July, just in time to start the process for 2022-23 team.

“We hope to recruit a team that will have 18-20 members in the fall of 2022 and establish ourselves as a place to be if you want to play baseball on Guam. We hope to host

a league ourselves or hold a tournament in the fall that leads into the Guam Major League in the spring so our team can play 9-10 months of the year,” said Said UOG Athletics director Doug Palmer.

The Tritons have a roster of 13 players currently, but after experiencing their first baseball action in February/March, the team is ready to compete against the best teams on the island and return to the glory days of GML championships running through the Mangilao campus. (PR)



TRITON ATHLETICS

The Tritons face an 11-game regular season in the Guam Major League that will take the UOG team into the summer time in its return to league since 2006.

## PANGELINAN

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streak. Blue Haus remained unscathed at 7-0, while their victims fell to 3-5.

In the nightcap, NAPA Auto repeated against Marianas Dental Center, 75-71, behind a balanced offensive attack led by the 9 points of James Abuy and 8 points of Jorge De Guzman. The win allowed NAPA Auto to improve to 6-2, its only two losses courtesy of Blue Haus. MDC, which was led by the 25 points of lefty Fradel Sedillo, absorbed its fifth

loss in eight games.

### First Game

**DECM 107** — Pangelinan 42, Tabora 24, Galulu 12, Jo. Gatdula 10, Viola 10, Rivera 2.

**Magalahi Eagles 74** — Banting 14, Ibanez 12, Cortez 12, Odicta 10, Brillo 6, Martinez 4, Elayda 4, Canedo 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 26-11, 44-28, 67-46, 101-74.

### Second Game

**Blue Haus 88** — Guiab 24, Esdrelon 20, Buenabaja 10, Elchico 7, Santos 9, Diaz 5, Samson 4, Jumaquio 3, Alano 2.

**Eagle Construction 77** — Santos 24, Ocampo 10, Sublemente 10, Singca 8, Surima 6, Sampang 5, Garcia 3.

**Scoring by quarters:** 20-21, 43-51, 70-64, 88-77.

### Third Game

**NAPA Auto 75** — Abuy 9, De Guzman 8, Manabat 7, Bartolo 7, Montano 7, Tabora 6, Guinto 6, Tobias 6, De Jesus 6, O. Ebuen 5.

**MDC 71** — Sedillo 25, Tolentino 17, Quemado 7, Catala 7, Dela Torre 4, Sangoyo 4, Manipon 4, Lumaug 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 21-21, 34, 58-48. 75-71.

## MEN'S

From Page 20

recognized what must be done to correct the lapses or make improvements on certain areas of their team and individual games.

“They are humbled by the experience and thankful that this happened when there’s still time to bounce back and work harder and together. Now, you could see more commitment from them, more focused to the program,” the veteran coach said.

Diaz said the men’s pool players acknowledged that

more communication is needed on the floor along with extra effort on defense and conditioning. On offense, Diaz took note of Coby Santos’ leadership and consistency and hopes the team captain will also inspire his teammates to have confidence in their game. Santos scored in twin digits in all three games, firing 26 markers against MicroFriends, 11 points versus the Bombers, and 17 points facing UOG.

“Now that they got the jitters (from playing together for the first time in an organized tournament) out and saw where the

team is at as far as the level of competitiveness is concerned, it’s time to step it up a notch higher and put their skills together. Continue the journey and work for better results,” Diaz said.

Players in the men’s pool will be vying for slots on the NMI National Team that will return to Guam in June to compete in FIBA Micronesian Cup. The event, a qualifier for the 2023 Pacific Games, will run from June 8 to 11 with the NMI men’s and women’s national squads facing Guam, Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia. (PR)

For more information, visit The Marianas Calendar at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com) or contact MVA Community Projects coordinator Ed Diaz at 1.670.664.3210 or [ediaz@mymarianas.com](mailto:ediaz@mymarianas.com). (PR)

## SHIRLEY'S

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Division, Matansa FC is unbeaten in two games following a 5-3 triumph over TanHoldings FC last Friday.

Barbara Peteru recorded two goals for Matansa, which got one apiece from Melissa Borja, Alleny Tenorio, and Tawny Barcinas. TanHoldings, on the other hand, drew its goals from Neriah Lumbad, Maria Masha, and Ma. Leo Ann Hix.

In the other match in the division, Kanoa shut down Paire-2, 2-0, to earn its first

win of the season.

Paire’s two goals all came in the second half, courtesy of Ana Mendiola and Kuli Sablan’s conversion in the 46th and 51st minute, respectively.

### TINEKCHA-AWAAL DIVISION

**Kanoa 5, Shirley's 0**

Kanoa was also victorious in the Tinekcha-Awaal game last Wednesday after dominating Shirley’s.

Allyssya Angeles and Kai-thlyn Chavez teamed up in the easy win after making two goals apiece. Angeles scored in the ninth and 35th and,

while Chavez delivered the last two goals for Kanoa after hitting the board in the 40th and 43rd. Irish Pagarao recorded the first goal for Kanoa in the 11th minute.

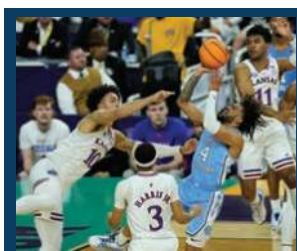
Kanoa leads the division with its 2-0-0 slate, while Shirley’s holds a 1-0-1 card.

### TakeCare 4, Southern United 0

TakeCare broke into the win column after blanking Southern United last week.

Britany Wally paced TakeCare with her pair of goals, while Lily Muldoon and Bernadette Horey chipped in one apiece.





Jayhawks rally,  
rock North  
Carolina, 72-69,  
to win title  
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# Saipan Tribune Sports

307 registered for  
Saipan Marathon  
2022



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20 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Men's hoops pool up for more work ahead

After playing in the NMI Friendship Classic at the University of Guam Calvo Field House, NMI Senior National Program players now more than ever acknowledged what needs to be done to be battle ready when they return to Guam in June.

The men's pool dropped its three friendly games, bowing to MicroFriends last Thursday, 72-86; to the KFC Bombers last Friday, 52-114; and to the UOG Tritons last Saturday, 57-64. The lack of playing experience against teams outside the NMI was evident in the three matches, especially versus the much taller and sturdier Bombers.

"The losses may have left a scar on our players, but they also left them a lot of lessons that they will take with them as we return to practice to get ready for our next competi-

tion, which is the FIBA Micronesians Cup," NMI Men's National Team head coach Joe Diaz said.

"Lesson No. 1 is to execute plays not just at the start of the game, but in the majority of the match and make adjustments as the situations call for it," the coach said.

Diaz added that after each match, he and Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation president James Lee talked to the players and the latter were very receptive on the officials' observations and

See MEN'S on Page 19



The NMI's Coby Santos challenges a shot from a University of Guam player during their friendly game last Saturday in the NMI Friendship Classic at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.



The NMI's Leo Naraja, right, dribbles and keeps the ball away from a KFC Bombers defender during their friendly game last Friday in the NMI Friendship Classic at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.



MARK RABAGO  
DECM's Ed Pangelinan attempts a rare 2-pointer against Magalahi Eagles in the masters division of the Inaugural SCLC Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multi-Purpose Gymnasium in Gualo Rai.

## Pangelinan makes 14 triples in DECM rout of Magalahi Eagles

MARK RABAGO  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Ed Pangelinan waxed hot from 3-point country to lead DECM to a 107-74 shellacking of Magalahi Eagles in the masters division of the Inaugural SCLC Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multi-Purpose Gymnasium in Gualo Rai.

The veteran sniper scored 42 points—all on 14 3-point shots—to set the SCLC record on points scored by a masters players this season. The total, however, is still six 3-pointers off from the unofficial masters

mark of 20 3-pointers canned by Rodney Catalla.

Pangelinan warmed up by draining four triples in the first quarter, which DECM took 26-11. He only had one hit from downtown in the second but his team took a 44-28 spread at halftime.

The former Bureau of Motor Vehicle employee staff returned to form in the third by making two more connections from the land of plenty, as DECM continued to lord it over Magalahi Eagles and led by a whopping 21 points heading into the fourth and final quarter.

Pangelinan then saved his best for last, igniting for seven more triples in the fourth. "Smoking" Jun Tabora unusually was the second-leading scorer in this one with 24 points, while Joseph Galulu, Andy Viola, and Joseph Gatdula chipped in at least 10 points apiece in the win. DECM thus improved to 4-5, while Magalahi Eagles continues to seek its first win at 0-6. Atoy Banting scored 14 points for Magalahi Eagles.

In the second game, Blue Haus bucked the ejection of

Elmer Esdrelon by leaning on bull-strong Junar Guiab to turn back Eagle Construction, 88-77. Esdrelon was called for his second technical foul early in the third, but the team rallied behind Guiab to turn a first half deficit to a third-quarter lead.

Guiab side-stepped his way for a team-high 24 points, while Esdrelon was on target with 20 points before hitting the showers. High-flying forward Raymond Santos paced Eagle Construction in the loss, which snapped its three-game win

See PANGELINAN on Page 19

## Shirley's nips Southern United

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Shirley's Football Club nosed out Southern United FC, 3-2,

to take the early lead in the Flores-Pee' Luwal A Division of the Dove Women's League Spring 2022 last Sunday at the NMI Soccer

Training Center in Koblerville.

Former national player Alexa Vergara nailed the game-winner for Shirley's in the 46th minute, while Jeraldine Castillo scored

the other goal for the team. Shirley's was credited with an own goal, while Southern's pair came from Elena Stutzman and Reanna Ramarui.

With the victory, Shirley's improved to a 2-0-0 win-draw-loss record to lead Southern (1-0-1), MP United (0-1-1), and Paire-1 (0-1-1).

Paire-1 and MP United played in the other game in the division and settled for a scoreless draw to remain in the hunt for their first win of the season.

In Flores-Pee' Luwal B See SHIRLEY'S on Page 19



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
Players in the Simiya-Paayul Division of the Dove Women's League Spring 2022 are in action during Week 2 of the season at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.






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DAYS LEFT UNTIL



**NORTHERN MARIANAS  
PACIFIC MINI GAMES  
2022**

**JUNE 17-25, 2022**





